



Coronavirus Policy

updated 17 July 2020



Kennington Youth Club is committed to upholding excellent levels of health and safety in order to safeguard the health and wellbeing of all our adults, young people, and visitors, and providing activities in a safe environment without risk as far as is reasonably practicable.

The overall responsibility for the implementation of this policy rests with the Management Committee, and the Chair, Jennifer Forder, is Health and Safety Representative.

Whilst Kennington Youth Club already holds a comprehensive Health and Safety policy, it has been deemed necessary to implement a separate policy specifically for the recent outbreak of Coronavirus, COVID-19.

Information about COVID-19

As of 11th March 2020, the World Health Organisation (WHO) classified Coronavirus COVID-19 as a global pandemic. COVID-19 is a new illness that can affect the lungs and airways. As COVID-19 was a new illness, health professionals did not know exactly how it was spread from person to person. At the time of updating the policy, science points to transmission between persons via water droplets from coughing/sneezing, and touching unclean surfaces that have previously been contaminated.

Current advice

The advice from the WHO at the time of updating this policy was:-

- Stay at home and work from home as much as possible
- Limit contact with other people
- Keep your distance from other people not in your household (2 metres apart where possible and where this is not possible, remain a minimum of 1 metre with protection)
- Self-isolate for seven days if you have any of the following conditions:
 - New continuous cough
 - High temperature
- Do not attend the GP surgery or hospital if you present with the above conditions unless it persists for more than seven days.

As of 4th July 2020, Prime Minister Boris Johnson has eased the full lockdown restrictions. Some adults can return to the workplace, schools are already reopening in 'bubbles', and pubs and other social venues can begin to reopen or consider reopening pending individual risks being assessed and managed appropriately. It is expected that from July 27th, indoor sports will be able to take place once more. On this date, the government are introducing mandatory wearing of masks in shops and similar indoor venues.

Preventing the spread

The WHO continues to promote the following:-

- wash hands with soap and water often and for 20 seconds.
- always wash your hands when you get home or into work.
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze.
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards.



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- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell.
- DO NOT touch eyes, nose, or mouth if your hands are not clean.

Action by Kennington Youth Club

Kennington Youth Club was proactive in promoting good hand-washing techniques to all of its members. As the threat of the virus spreading rose, the club ceased all youth club activities as of 14th March 2020. This was in part due to the inability to provide higher-level cleaning on a regular basis, added to the prospect of not being able to fulfil necessary adult to child ratios, as well as the risk to current leaders and linked family members of all persons attending.

The Premises

Kennington Youth Club erected relevant government posters on 14th March 2020. On the same date it informed all private hirers of the following:-

- Hirers shall be permitted to continue to use the youth club building but this is entirely at the hirer's own risk.
- Hirers shall be made aware that whilst the youth club is deemed as 'closed' (which is the period during which youth club sessions are not taking place), there shall be no regular cleaner in attendance.
- As such, hirers shall be responsible for and required to wipe down any and all basins and toilets after use as well as door handles and push plates in the areas they have been, as well as any taps, etc in the kitchen.
- Suitable cleaning materials for this purpose are at the hirers expense.
- The committee will consider waiving rental fees in return for this action.
- The committee shall take no responsibility for illness (minor or serious), or fatality that occurs as a result of hiring the hall during the 'closed' period.
- Where it is deemed that a case of Coronavirus has been contracted from a hall hirer or any of their party attending the premises when they should have for example, self-isolated, the hirer will be responsible for the cost of a full deep clean of the entire premises.

From the third week of March, private hirers decided to cease activities and no further bookings have been taken.

As of 13th May 2020, the committee agreed that hirers may only resume use of the premises upon gaining written confirmation from the committee.

The suspension of all in person direct delivery Youth Club activities remained in place until Wednesday 22nd April when a virtual review was made and the club decided to continue not to run the usual format until Wednesday 3rd June at the earliest.

Continuing Provision

Since Wednesday 23rd March, the club has continued to make provision for young people in the form of virtual meetings on a fortnightly basis using the online conferencing facility Zoom, offering a 'Wellbeing Hotline', and a food parcel service to those within our community that may require support. To ensure funds are not depleted at the current time, promotion of the 50:50 club, easyfundraising, and our new online quiz have taken place.



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Since 1st June, digital youth work has increased to weekly, regular competitions and challenges have been set, and on Friday 26th June a new steering group met to plan future provision. The agreement was to continue with digital youth services and seek to start offering some form of Outreach and/or Detached youth work week commencing 13th July. This started on 16th July.

With the appointment of a new Social Media Coordinator the club has increased its online presence. The DSL's have also considered setting up Whatsapp groups for the club but as of the current date, this has not been progressed.

Online Safeguarding

A 'Wellbeing Hotline' service was also set up allowing members to contact leaders for a wellbeing 'chat' if needed. Designated Safeguarding Leads, Roy Peach and Vickie Ward confirmed the details. It was agreed that parents would have to email via the wellbeing email address and from here a Zoom conference call or telephone call could be set up. Whichever adult held the call (expected to be Roy Peach, Youth Leader) would expect the parent to be present prior to the call and after the call, and to remain within the vicinity of the young person (i.e.: not leave the house) for reasons of safety. The club adult that handled the call would report to another DSL afterwards.

Forward Planning

The Chair of the committee and the Youth Leader have been closely following government and National Youth Agency guidance respectively and liaising regularly. The government proposed on Sunday 10th May that primary schools would reopen from Monday 1st June. Previously Kennington Youth Club agreed to fall in line with the schools, however, following a presentation by the Youth Leader on 21st May, it was evident that the youth club is not in a position to reopen in its previous format due to a variety of factors.

Following the formation of the Steering Group (JF,HH, RP only attended the meeting), the a separate action plan has been draw up for the return of youth work in phases starting with Outreach and Detached, easing into small groups inside the premises in 'bubbles', and subsequently expanding to be fully open as restrictions ease.

Hall users

As restrictions are easing the committee agreed in principle at the AGM on Tuesday 14th July that the club could reopen to hall hirers once all necessary risks had been assessed. The Youth Leader and Chair met on Thursday 16th July to discuss this further and assess the premises. It is anticipated that the hall will be fit for purpose to private hirers (following government guidelines on limited attendees) within three to four weeks.

Risk Assessment

The risk assessment for the premises was updated to include Coronavirus at the start of the pandemic and has been revised again as part of each policy review.



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Signed on behalf of the Management Committee:

Name..... Chairperson

Signature.....

Date.....

Name..... Youth Leader

Signature.....

Date.....

Document version history		Author: Roy Peach, Youth Leader	
Version	Date	Amendments	By whom
2	11/05/2020	Full policy update taking into account government advice and that from the National Youth Agency. Provided further detail following committee meeting 21.05.2020	Roy Peach, Youth Leader RP, Youth Leader
3	17/07/2020	Full policy update taking into account government advice and that from the National Youth Agency. Further information provided on provision offered for young people, forward planning, and new section added re hall hirers.	RP, Youth Leader