

Protocol for the Partial Re-opening of Path Hill Outdoors for 1:1 Students

The Directors at Path Hill Outdoors have taken the decision to re-open the centre week commencing 4th May. The closure of the centre over the last 6 weeks has ensured that our staff team and students have been able to stay at home and keep safe as the government and Public Health England have advised.

After conversations with local councils and referrers, we now feel confident that this is the right time to gradually re open the centre. We are aware that many of our students are struggling with the changes that lock down has imposed and that they need to get back to a routine and some activity outside of home. For some this situation is also becoming detrimental to their mental wellbeing.

We acknowledge that our opening requires a re-think in our everyday procedures to minimise risk of exposing students, staff and parents/carers to the Covid-19 virus. Path Hill Outdoors is fortunate to have access to many different outdoor spaces allowing us to deliver a range of activities and adventures whilst maintaining appropriate social distancing.

General rules

- We will observe the two-metre social distancing rule at all times. As we are based outdoors, maintaining the two-metre rule will be easier than in a building.
- Students and staff will be reminded to wash their hands more frequently and at key times such as on arriving and leaving Path Hill, before and after eating.
- Students will not have access to the building or the barn. The only member of staff with access to the building will be the nominated coordinator for the day.
- No offsite visits to places of public gathering
- No canoeing on the River Thames
- First Aid – if a student or staff member requires first aid assistance, the Path Hill first aider will wear gloves and a mask in order to tend to the situation.

Buildings and Equipment

- No one is permitted in the building other than the nominated coordinator for the day who will prepare the food for the day and ensure all equipment has been sanitised and before and after use.
- Gloves will be worn at meal times and when using shared equipment. Masks will be worn by the nominated coordinator for the day when serving food and when we are required to transport students.
- There will be daily pre and post cleaning of surfaces, handles and equipment
- Individual kit boxes will be prepared and allocated to staff and will not to be shared with others.
- Student will have a clean set of basic personal kit for their sole use.
- The outside toilets and handwashing sinks will be steam cleaned daily.
- All kit will be disinfected before and after check out by the nominated coordinator each day.

Rules specific to staff

- All staff have the responsibility to monitor themselves and families for symptoms and self-isolate if symptomatic.
- Morning briefings and afternoon debriefs will be held outside with two-metre spacing between all staff.
- No paperwork will be needed – plans for the day will be outlined verbally in the morning briefings and the daily reviews will be submitted online from home
- No dogs can be brought on site
- Staff to use personal kit where possible (first aid kits, sharp tools, gloves if possible)

Catering

- The nominated coordinator will prepare the daily meal which will be served outdoors with hygiene and distancing observed throughout.
- Handwashing will be obligatory prior to and after meals. Queuing for food will be at the 2-metre distance.
- Students can bring a packed lunch if they have specific dietary requirements. The coordinator can prepare sandwiches for certain students if 24-hour notice is given.

Transport

- There will only be parental/carer drop offs and pick ups (no taxis or public transport)
- In cases where it has been pre-arranged for Path Hill to transport a student, we will use a seven-seater vehicle placing the student on back seat during transportation to allow for the 2m distancing.

Parental responsibilities

- Students who present with symptoms of Covid-19 should not attend Path Hill Outdoors. If members of the household where the student lives present with symptoms of Covid-19 the student should not attend Path Hill Outdoors. Self-isolation should follow the current Government guidelines.
- If a child arrives at Path Hill looking ill, we will ask for them to be returned home. We will have an infrared thermometer available to measure the temperature of students if we suspect they may be feverish.