

## RISK ASSESSMENT NOTES FOR DURING COVID-19

Concern	Response	Risks to young people and/or leaders	Advantages	Safer working practice to reduce risk
The challenge of getting messages out to people about what is happening where and when; or general broadcast messages	Use WhatsApp group for parents/carers or dedicated Facebook page	Reliant on parents joining the group/passing on info	Good for broadcast messages;	Communication with carers
Losing contact with young people because of social distancing	Use Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, and Skype, Tik Tok	Need to be <b>13 years old</b> to have access;	Good for outward broadcast messages;	Follow the Methodist Church Social Media guidelines: <a href="https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/10396/children-and-youth-social-media-policy-for-churches.pdf">https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/10396/children-and-youth-social-media-policy-for-churches.pdf</a> Ensure parental permission if communicating with children/young people by these forms of social media; Where parents/carers do not give consent, consider if they can be added to the group instead of the young person; Ensure there are adults who act a 'moderators' for the group and that no adult is setting up one to one contact via social media, apart from where a worker has a known/fully accountable mentoring relationship with a young person Ensure adult moderators of groups have enhanced DBS checks with barred list check
	Use WhatApp group messaging	Need to be <b>16 years old</b> to have access; general content not	Good for group outward broadcast messages,	Ensure adults on group have Enhanced DBS checks with barred list check Group messaging for older young people; Parental consent needed; Parents can decide whether they or their child get the message;
Social distancing will end mentoring	Use public space as long as parents	Risk of passing on or catching coronavirus	Offer professional	Ensure mentor has an Enhanced DBS check with a barred list check;

relationships in public space	and youth worker/leader agree within government guidelines.		support as long as possible	<p>Ensure mentor has an Enhanced DBS check with a barred list check</p> <p>Ensure supervisor/mentor relationship still in place (accountability)</p> <p>Risk to young people thought to be less than to older population or people with underlying health concerns. Risks to youth leader/worker need to be considered.</p> <p>Check with parents/carers before each meeting that they consider the face to face mentoring to be appropriate and young person showing symptoms of Covid 19</p> <p>End contact and self-isolate if worker or member of household develops symptoms of Covid 19;</p> <p>Review and resume by Skype/Facetime initially if appropriate.</p>
	Use skype, Facetime or other video conferencing to continue mentoring relationship	Not as effective a human contact so may be more difficult to maintain the mentoring relationship		<p>Ensure mentor has an Enhanced DBS check with a barred list check</p> <p>Ensure supervisor/mentor relationship still in place (accountability)</p> <p>Gain parental consent for online mentoring relationship</p> <p>Ensure and accurate log is kept of all mentoring appointments which take place in this way, including date, time, broad outline of conversation;</p> <p>Plan for, make and keep mentor/mentee appointments just as would in daily life;</p> <p>End contact and self-isolate if worker or member of household develops symptoms of Covid 19</p>
Vulnerable young people might need help but not know how to get it.	Assume this is fulfilled by schools staying open for vulnerable	Children/ young people may not trust education/statutory agencies	Help given by most direct route with resources.	

	children & young people			
Children and young people at a loose end in the community; those on edge of vulnerability may not be included in schools' response; young people may panic/ become anxious and need support; or not take issue seriously and put self and others at risk.	Offer detached youth work respecting social distancing measures	Risk of passing on or getting coronavirus;	May engage existing or new young people; help respond to anxiety in young people	Ensure has an Enhanced DBS check with a barred list check Ensure supervisor/mentor relationship still in place (accountability) Detached youth worker safely recruited and trained; work with a co-worker/volunteer; advise local schools, Police Safer Neighbourhood team/ local community network of the work; advertise through social media groups where and when it will take place if used to catch up with known young people; keep a log of concerns raised by the young people and consult on appropriate ways of responding; wash hands regularly; take hand sanitizer (if you can find any); take business cards so parents/carers can identify who child/young person has spoken to; follow government advice on social distancing; End contact and self-isolate if worker/ coworker or member of their household develops symptoms of Covid 19

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