

# Seasonal Respiratory Virus Risk Assessment

## Site: 177 Preston Road

Company name: Here (Care Unbound Ltd)

Assessment carried out by: Infection Control Team

Date of next review: 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Date of assessment: 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Current guidance: [NHS England » National infection prevention and control manual \(NIPCM\) for England](#)

Risk	Potential for Harm	Risk Mitigation	Further Action required	Considerations
<b>Staff experiencing mild symptoms of a common cold, flu or covid that does not prevent them from working and therefore present at work</b>	Transmission of respiratory symptoms which could impact on staff wellness and operational capacity to deliver services.	In these instances, staff should arrange to work from home where possible to avoid potential transmission.  Where this is not possible, alternative options should be discussed with the line manager which might include taking leave.	None	Where a staff member is not well enough to work, they should follow the normal sickness procedure.
<b>Transmission of respiratory virus/seasonal flu among asymptomatic staff</b>	Impact on staff wellness and operational capacity to deliver services.	Maintaining appropriate hand hygiene procedures. Staff should continue to follow current national guidance in terms of hand hygiene - reminders of which are provided in poster form in toilet areas and kitchen areas.	None	Infection control policy outlines hand hygiene as an important part of the daily routine in healthcare and should be considered to be best practice at all times.

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		<p>Best practice hand washing technique is enough to prevent cross contamination but hand gel is readily available at the entrances to each floor (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>) and at various points on each floor.</p> <p>Maintaining an appropriate social distance in areas of high footfall or congregation of staff such as in meetings. This largely represents a return to normality.</p> <p>Staff should ventilate rooms as appropriate.</p>		
<p><b>Transmission of virus as a result of cluttered work spaces used by multiple people</b></p>	<p>Presents both an infection control risk and a health and safety risk particularly for desks which are used by multiple people.</p>	<p>Staff to maintain clear desks where hot desk working is required and to avoid potential infection control risks as part of standard work space guidance.</p> <p>Each service is responsible for ensuring that desks are clear at the end of the working day to enable the cleaning staff to wipe over the desk space.</p> <p>Where ad hoc spillages occur, staff should take responsibility for cleaning up their work area before they leave it.</p> <p>Blue roll and disinfectant spray should remain available for staff to use but should be at the discretion of the desk user.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Infection control policy outlines the issues that cluttered desks can play in transmission of infection as well as health and safety and staff are made aware of this through core training. Service leads should ensure that training compliance is up to date.</p>

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<b>Impact on people attending other services in the building who may be significantly vulnerable/immun osuppressed</b>		Staff to remain mindful that whilst all restrictions have been lifted within the building, some people attending other services may not feel comfortable sharing a lift being too close to others.	None	Key consideration is situation specific and we would expect all staff to be mindful of this.