



# COVID-19: SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE

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**FOR CLUBS**



# COVID-19: GUIDANCE FOR GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL

We want to thank you in advance for playing your vital part in helping our great game get going again. By observing Government guidance and the football-specific protocols, let's work together to ensure the transition back to enjoying football is as smooth and safe as possible. Please note that there is no material impact on the playing of grassroots football at this time. We will continue to provide updates if required going forward.

This guidance has been updated on **December 16th 2021** to reflect the Government's move to Plan B of the **Covid Autumn/Winter Plan**, in response to the risks of the Omicron variant.

It is important that all participants follow FA and **Government guidance**, including measures on mask wearing and hygiene, to minimise the risk of transmission. The changes to restrictions at this time are summarised below.

- **From Friday 10th December**, face coverings will be legally required in most public indoor venues. All participants must follow the instructions of facility providers on the wearing of face coverings. Face coverings are not required when playing football.
- **From Tuesday 14th December**, fully-vaccinated contacts of someone with Covid-19 should take rapid lateral flow tests every day for seven days. If you test positive or develop symptoms, you need to self-isolate for 10 days.
  - You can find more information on ordering free packs of lateral flow tests **here**.
  - Government guidance on staying at home for households with possible or confirmed Covid-19 is **here**.
- **From Wednesday 15th December**, certain businesses and some events are required by law to check the Covid status of workers and customers, using the NHS Covid Pass. This includes unseated indoor events with 500 or more attendees, unseated outdoor events with 4,000 or more attendees and any event with 10,000 or more attendees. To enter or work in these venues and events, customers and workers must provide proof that they are fully vaccinated or have tested negative in the last 48 hours (unless they are exempt from these requirements).
- All international arrivals to take a Day 2 PCR test and self-isolate until they receive a negative test. This means you cannot play football until you receive a negative test or complete your isolation period.

**The FA continues to work closely with Government to monitor the ongoing impact of Covid-19 and will update this document with any further changes, as and when necessary.**

The other FA Covid-19 guidance notes are below, which you'll find **here**:

- Covid-19: Guidance for Grassroots Football
- Covid-19: Guidance for The National League System
- Covid-19: Guidance for The Women's Football Pyramid (Tiers 3-6)
- Covid-19: First-aid Guidance for Grassroots Football

# COVID-19: GUIDANCE FOR GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL (CONTINUED)

## DETAILED GUIDANCE FOR GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL

### ADAPTATIONS TO THE GAME

In previous FA guidance, we set out the required adaptations to the playing of the game, to align to the Government's team sports framework. This included not prolonging elements of the game where players will be in close proximity (i.e. free kicks and corners) and avoiding team huddles and handshakes (for example).

These adaptations are no longer required by the Government and so have been removed from this guidance. However, clubs, leagues and all participants should remain vigilant and, for example, be respectful of individuals/teams who may not wish to shake hands before games.

### CLOSE CONTACT AND SELF-ISOLATION

The Government has updated its guidance on self isolation. Covid-19 infection rates are very high and the Omicron variant is spreading rapidly. It is important that we all take steps to reduce the spread of Covid-19 infection in the community to save lives and protect the NHS.

If you have Covid-19 **symptoms** you should stay at home and self-isolate immediately. You should **arrange to have a PCR test** as soon as possible. If this PCR test result is positive, you must continue to self-isolate.

If you do not have Covid-19 symptoms, but you have a positive PCR test result, you must stay at home and self-isolate.

If you live in the same household as someone with Covid-19 you are at significantly higher risk of becoming infected yourself.

If you have been vaccinated with a Covid-19 vaccine, you are less likely to become severely ill if you catch Covid-19. You are also less likely to spread Covid-19 to other people, but it is still possible for this to happen. Therefore:

- if you are aged 18 years 6 months or over and you are not fully vaccinated\*, and you live in the same household as someone with Covid-19, you are legally required to stay at home and self-isolate

- if you are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years and 6 months, and you live in the same household as someone with Covid-19, you are not legally required to self-isolate. However, you are strongly advised to take an LFD test every day for seven days, and to self-isolate if any of these test results is positive

\*You are fully vaccinated 14 days after having received two doses of an approved vaccine (such as Pfizer/BioNTech, AstraZeneca or Moderna/Spikevax) or one dose of the single-dose Janssen vaccine.

### MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

From Friday 10th December, face coverings will be legally required in most public indoor venues, unless you are exempt. Please follow the rules laid out by facility providers on face coverings, including when entering, exiting and moving around a facility.

Government advice is that the use of masks reduce risks to people, both yourselves and those around you. Please note you do not need to wear a mask when playing football, including indoors.

### CAPACITY

All businesses and facilities will be able to open, with no caps on capacity (indoors or outdoors).

### QR CODES

While there is no legal requirement for use of QR codes, Government is encouraging businesses and facilities to continue using these.

### CHANGING ROOMS

Changing rooms can be used. However, participants should minimise use of changing facilities where possible to avoid prolonged contact with people in a crowded space.

Clubs and facilities may also wish to consider taking precautions to avoid close contact, for example, asking participants to socially distance and ensure thorough ventilation.

### SPECTATORS

There are no limits on spectators for grassroots football, this includes parents and carers. All facilities can open without restrictions on capacity; however, facilities should follow

# COVID-19: GUIDANCE FOR GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL (CONTINUED)

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**Government guidance** on how to best manage crowds, particularly for bigger events.

If your club plays in the men's National League System or the Women's Football Pyramid (Tiers 3-6), please refer to The FA's specific guidance for those areas of the game.

## HOSPITALITY

All outdoor and indoor hospitality are allowed to open without restrictions on capacity limits or how people order food and drink, however guidance on face coverings and hygiene should be followed.

## KEEPING YOUR CLUBHOUSE AND EQUIPMENT CLEAN

Keeping your clubhouse clean will reduce the risk of passing the infection onto other people. To achieve this, your cleaning procedures should be thorough and rigorous. A cleaning schedule could include:

- Daily cleaning throughout the clubhouse and facility;
- Identifying high-contact touch points for more regular cleaning (e.g. door handles, grab rails, vending machines);
- Frequent cleaning of work areas and equipment between use;
- Cleaning of shared training equipment after each individual use;
- Having waste facilities and more frequent rubbish collection;
- Removing any non-essential items that may be difficult to clean.

The FA is working with its recently-appointed official hygiene partner, Dettol, to the grassroots game.

## LATERAL FLOW TESTS

From Tuesday 14th December, fully-vaccinated contacts of someone with Covid-19 should take rapid lateral flow tests every day for seven days. If you test positive or develop symptoms, you need to self-isolate for 10 days.

- You can find more information on ordering free packs of lateral flow tests [here](#).

- Government guidance on staying at home for households with possible or confirmed Covid-19 is [here](#).

## FIRST AID

All participants should ensure they have read the updated FA guidance on First Aid.

## TRAVEL

All participants may travel to games with no restrictions in place for domestic travel. Participants should be aware that travelling in cars is now permitted, however this does mean that they will likely be in close contact and should manage any risks linked to this. Any international travel should be in line with **Government advice**. Players and clubs should consider how they can reduce the likelihood of close contact occurring.

## INSPECTING THE EXISTING CONDITION OF YOUR FACILITY

If parts of your facility have not been used for some time, a thorough building inspection and walk-round will allow you to identify any issues and damage. This will help you plan what work needs to be carried out and should include water quality (e.g. for Legionella and other contaminants), drains, gas services, ventilation, alarms/safety systems and pest control.

## FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The guidance you are reading is FOR ALL – players, coaches, club officials, club welfare officers, match officials, league officials, first-aiders, volunteers, parents/carers, facility providers and spectators.

Clubs and facility providers should update their risk assessment regularly and also update their medical emergency action plan around player care, as well as strictly following the first-aid guidance document published by The FA, without exception. This is both to protect players and any club member who is trying to aid the player if an emergency arises.

**Whenever this document refers to finding further information on TheFA.com, you'll find it [here](#).**

# COVID-19: SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE

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## *Carrying out risk assessments during the Covid-19 pandemic*

### CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

Affiliated clubs organising and/or hosting football activities have a legal duty to take reasonable care to avoid acts or omissions which are a reasonably foreseeable risk. A risk assessment is a systematic review of the tasks, jobs or processes involved when your club organises, facilitates and/or hosts football activities. The purpose is to identify the significant hazards, the risk of someone being harmed and deciding what further control measures you must take to reduce the risk to an acceptable level.

Risk assessments should cover all risks, including those associated with the Covid-19 pandemic and how the club intends to ensure that its members and activities will operate within the Government guidance.

The public health crisis is constantly developing and so should clubs' response to it. Clubs are responsible for ensuring that risk assessments are completed, continually reviewed in light of changing Government guidance, feedback and observations from staff.

### RISK ASSESSMENTS – FIVE KEY STEPS

Club officials and coaches should keep the below five steps in mind at all times to ensure the safety of participants.

**Clubs should review the measures implemented in response to these regularly, particularly when Government advice or guidance changes.**

- 1.** Keep up to date with Government and FA guidance. Please ensure that they are followed at all times and communicate the guidelines to all individuals connected with your club. Please see the latest detailed FA guidance on grassroots football activity.
- 2.** Contact the club's insurance provider to ensure that your club is suitably covered to undertake activities in the current public health crisis. See additional notes below.
- 3.** Undertake regular risk assessments of the club's activities, ensuring that each one is named, signed and dated by those completing and approving it – see below for more details. Risk assessments are 'living documents' and should be updated and reviewed regularly and kept in active use to mitigate any new or changing risks. Undertake specific employee/volunteer risk assessments for anyone undertaking high-risk roles or tasks.
- 4.** Adapt activities and update the club's policies in light of steps 1-3. Policies to be updated include: Health and Safety Policy; and Data Privacy Policy to cover the handling of data.
- 5.** Ensure that everyone – board/committee members, coaches, first aiders, volunteers, parents and players – is aware of the club's Covid-19 protocols.

**Do not undertake an activity if the club has any concerns about the safety of club officials and/or participants.**

# COVID-19: SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR A SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT

## COMMUNICATIONS WITH PARENTS/CARERS RE: ACTIVITY FOR CHILDREN

Coaching children, as we all adjust to changing requirements in respect of Covid-19, will have its challenges. Parents/carers need to be kept informed and make their decision on what they feel is right for their child.

Below is a non-exhaustive list of issues clubs may want to consider when preparing a risk assessment during the Covid-19 pandemic:

1. Gaining informed written consent for involvement in any activity.
  - a. Where a child is aged 15 years or younger then parents/carers must give informed written consent via a consent form or e-mail trail, before their child can take part in football activity. Clubs need to decide how they retain a record of those parents/carers who have given consent (e.g. retain email, log consent form). NB: While The FA supports informed written self-consent from those aged 16 and 17 years of age – in these unusual times clubs may wish to seek parent/carer consent for these two age groups as well.
  - b. Clubs need to ensure that parents/carers are fully informed about any football activity being considered and the measures that are in place to ensure that the activity follows current Government guidance. Identify how the club will do this e.g. by providing written information to parents/carers outlining the activity being offered and measures being taken to manage risks via and inviting permission via a consent form (see [FA safeguarding Guidance Notes 8.2](#) for an example form), or via an e-mail.
2. Parents should be told to ensure that their child has their own water bottle, hand sanitiser, sun cream and any necessary medication (e.g. inhaler). All items belonging to their child should be labelled with their name and should not be used by anyone else.
3. For more information on safeguarding children and the suitability of staff and volunteers please see The FA's guidance found [here](#).

If consent is sought via e-mail, clubs will need to ensure they use wording such as:

requires parental consent before your child takes part in any football activities.

By replying to this e-mail and stating “**I consent for my child to take part**”, you are confirming that you have read and understood the activities being offered to your child and agree with the measures the club has put in place to manage any risks, including its Covid-19 measures in line with current Government guidance.

A copy of the club's risk assessment/management documentation (**can be found here/is attached to this email**)

If your child has any specific medical conditions, please ensure that you discuss these with the club welfare officer and or coach and agree the best way to support your child's needs e.g. you staying to watch nearby and taking responsibility to administer the medication. For your information the club may use a form such as the one in [FA safeguarding Guidance Notes 8.2](#) to gather any relevant information from you. **If your child has Covid-19 symptoms they must stay at home and follow Government advice.**

If you wish to withdraw consent to your child participating in any or all activities, please notify

in advance, or as soon as possible.

# COVID-19: SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR A SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

## HEALTH CHECKS, INJURIES AND ILLNESS

Please refer to medical training and check if a current Medical Emergency Action Plan (MEAP, see page 20), which you will find on TheFA.com [here](#), has been written for the event or venue. See also The FA First Aid Guidance.

If there is a first aider or other medical personnel present, they should be equipped with the appropriate Personal

Protective Equipment (PPE) before treating anyone to protect themselves and others should they need to compromise social distancing guidelines to provide medical assistance during training or matches. They should have updated themselves on any changes in first aid procedure that will be required as a result of the pandemic. This should be obtained from their training organisation or from Resuscitation Council guidance.



# COVID-19: SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR A SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

## SELF-CHECKS BEFORE ATTENDING A PLANNED TRAINING SESSION

Self-checks are very important in identifying who has possible symptoms of Covid-19 infection, as this helps reduce those with the infection attending football activity and transmitting the infection to others. This quick check should be done before each training session so those who trigger a positive answer, can stay away to protect everyone else. Some clubs may wish to have this completed in the form of an online or paper questionnaire (see Table 1).

Where it has not been possible for this to be completed prior to the session, it must be done at the start of the session before contact with any other player or staff member.

### Arrival at the venue

Coaches at the club should check that each participant completed the self-screen check list before attending and if so, if the self-screen checks were negative for all participants. Ensuring everyone understands the importance of this simple process being completed before travelling is essential to avoid potential transmission.

**TABLE 1: SELF-SCREENING CHECK LIST PRIOR TO EACH TRAINING SESSION**

Each participant should self-screen prior to arrival at training to ensure they do not have any of the following symptoms (confirmed by a parent for those under age 18), as these are potential indicators of Covid-19 infection.	Check negative	Check positive
<b>A high temperature (above 37.8°C)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some clubs may include on-site temperature checking of participants as part of their SOP, this is more relevant to clubs who employ medical staff.</li> </ul>		
<b>A new continuous cough.</b>		
<b>Shortness of breath.</b>		
<b>A sore throat.</b>		
<b>Loss of or change in normal sense of taste or smell.</b>		
<b>Feeling generally unwell.</b>		
<b>Persistent tiredness</b>		
<b>Been in close contact with/living with a suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19 in the previous two weeks*.</b>		
<b>Finally, are you or anyone in your household/bubble self-isolating whilst waiting for a test or test results for Covid-19?</b>		

\* The answer provided here will require further club risk assessment and Government guidance followed, dependent upon age, symptoms and vaccination status. You'll find this guidance [here](#).



# COVID-19: SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR A SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

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If a participant says they forgot to self-check before their arrival, then the coach should ask them the health check questions before they join any group at the facility. If they answer 'yes' to one or more of the questions, participants must not take part in the activity and should be told to safely return home.

## During the session

Please refer to The FA First-Aid guidance, for how to manage the situation if anyone appears to be symptomatic during the session. You can find this guidance on The FA.com [here](#).

### 1. INJURIES

If a player gets injured this can be dealt with as normal by a first aider with appropriate training, wearing the appropriate PPE (disposal gloves, apron and fluid-resistant face mask). If no first aider is present then the coach can assist from a distance (unless wearing PPE) until a parent, a household member or the first aider or ambulance arrive. For further information refer to The FA's Covid-19 First-aid guidance for grassroots football, which you'll find [here](#).

### 2. INSURANCE

Clubs must ensure the relevant insurance cover (public liability and personal accident) is in place.

Please note that even with insurance cover, clubs must still follow Government guidance at all times.

For details on the National Game Insurance Scheme cover during Covid-19 click [here](#).

Please contact your County FA if you have any insurance cover-related queries.

## PLANNING TRAINING SESSIONS AND OTHER FOOTBALL ACTIVITIES

### EQUIPMENT

Please refer to the for [Government guidance](#) on cleaning in non-health care settings.

#### Key considerations for clubs:

- Clean equipment between uses:
  - Identify who will regularly maintain the equipment hygiene e.g. balls, cones, goalposts and bibs;
  - Thoroughly clean the equipment e.g. balls, cones, bibs, goalposts, etc.
- Limit sharing of equipment where possible:
  - Ensure equipment is handled as little as possible by as few people as possible;
  - Each participant should bring to training their own water bottles, sun cream and medication each of which should be clearly labelled with their name.
- Have strict hand hygiene:
  - If individuals are going to share equipment, including balls, always ensure the individuals' hands are thoroughly cleansed using alcohol-based hand gel, if clean running water and soap are not available, before and after use.

# GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT

EVENT DETAILS	
EVENT: (e.g. Under-10s coaching sessions)	DATE:
CLUB LEAD NAME, ROLE FOR SESSION AND CONTACT NUMBER:	
SECOND ADULT NAME, ROLE FOR SESSION AND CONTACT NUMBER:	
DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING PERSON NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS:	

VENUE DETAILS (e.g. Club)	
VENUE NAME AND ADDRESS:	
VENUE LEAD CONTACT NAME:	CONTACT NUMBER:
VENUE GPS CO-ORDINATES:	WIFI ACCESS:

CLUB POLICIES AND PROCEDURES BEING FOLLOWED	YES	NO
Safeguarding children		
Adults at risk		
Social media use		
Use of photograph and filming		
Anti-bullying		
Code of Conduct, including acceptable behaviour		
Equality, diversity and inclusion		
Managing challenging behaviour		
Other(s): e.g. parent/carer consent		

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES		
Emergency Action Plan:	YES	NO
Location of nearest defibrillator:		
Name of designated runner to bring defibrillator to incident site:		
Location of any access barrier keys:		
Emergency vehicle access:		
Air ambulance landing station:		

INSURANCE COVER	YES	NO
Personal Accident and Public Liability insurance cover		

# GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

BELOW IS A NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF ISSUES CLUBS MAY WANT TO CONSIDER WHEN PREPARING A RISK ASSESSMENT DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled <sup>1</sup> or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
<b>EXAMPLE</b> Informed written consent to participate.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Yes, must have parent/ carer consent. Additional risks, e.g. younger age groups – understanding of social distancing is limited.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Possibly, it depends on the disability or impairment. Discuss with participants to assess this.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Amber	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Parents/carers to be advised of Covid-19 arrangements prior to consenting for their child to participate. Discuss with adult participants.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Amber as not been done before. Implement in line with guidance, note impact and review.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Majority of children managed social distancing, work with relevant parents to reinforce with a handful.
Parents briefed on activity and have given informed written consent to do activity 8.2 <sup>2</sup>						
Consent to be photographed/filmed 8.2 and 8.3						
Consent for contact via social media and to have info on/be visible on social media 6.1 and 6.2						

<sup>1</sup> Disability is a protected characteristic, under the Equality Act, 2010. Clubs should champion inclusive football activity in line with their equality and/or inclusion policies

<sup>2</sup> These numerical references refer to downloads on the safeguarding section of TheFA.com [here](#)

\* Risk ratings: red (serious issues and risk/interventions needed immediately); amber (some issues/being managed/needs monitoring); green (on track).

# GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled <sup>1</sup> or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
Clear procedures for referring safeguarding concerns and managing allegations against staff 2.1 & 2.2						
Children and parents/ carers given DSO details and how to raise concerns 7.1						
<b>EXAMPLE</b> Staffing ratios: - Clearly defined lead and support roles.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Yes – lead coach and 2nd adult. Brief both on roles and responsibilities.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Yes – check individual understanding with staff and adult players.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Red	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Follow Government Covid-19 and FA guidance. Discuss risks and how being managed.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Green	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Review learning and share across club.
Staffing ratios: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Defined lead/support roles;</li> <li>Supervision under-18 volunteers.</li> </ul> 5.5						
Guidance re staff conduct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signed Code of Conduct.</li> <li>Clarity re: acceptable/ unacceptable practice.</li> </ul> 5.2 (CWO); 10.12 (Respect Codes)						

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# GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled <sup>1</sup> or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
Risk assessments done for anyone carrying out high risk roles/tasks						
Covid-19 protocols briefings shared and practised with committee/volunteers						
Covid-19 protocols briefings done with club members						
Participants trained to do self-screen checks before travelling to session						
Coaches trained to check that self-screen checks have been done and were all negative						

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# GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled <sup>1</sup> or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
Travel arrangements 5.4						
Drop off/pick up arrangements e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessible parking;</li> <li>• Signage;</li> <li>• Social distancing;</li> <li>• Managing parents.</li> </ul>						
Changing/showers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider Government guidance on close contact</li> <li>• Ensure suitable ventilation</li> </ul> 8.4						

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# GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled <sup>1</sup> or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
Access to toilets, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervision;</li> <li>• Hand-washing and/or rub 'washing' facilities;</li> <li>• Paper towels and sealed bins or double-bagged<sup>3</sup>.</li> </ul>						
Site boundaries, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public access;</li> <li>• Roads;</li> <li>• Location of facilities;</li> <li>• Drop-off point and access to pitches/training areas.</li> </ul>						

<sup>3</sup> Double bag in line with Government Guidance, if there is concern that someone may have been symptomatic or infected with Covid-19.

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# GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled <sup>1</sup> or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
<b>EXAMPLE</b> Site boundaries, e.g.: - Public access; - Roads; - Location of facilities.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Yes, supervision to use toilets/cross roads whilst social distancing.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Unknown – review with adult players and coaches.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Red	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Agree and communicate protocols with children & parents.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Amber	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Review after practice and share learning.
Group size 5.5						
Participant additional needs, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deaf players (BSL signers);</li> <li>• Blind players;</li> <li>• Wheelchair accessibility;</li> <li>• Learning disability;</li> <li>• Autism;</li> <li>• ADHD;</li> <li>• Pan-disability;</li> <li>• Impairment-specific;</li> <li>• Interpreters where English not spoken.</li> </ul> 7.2 and 10						

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# GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled <sup>1</sup> or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
<b>EXAMPLE</b> Playing area clearly marked.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Support children to identify the playing area.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Support participants to identify playing area.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Amber	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Cones to demarcate zones.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Green	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Review with players and coaches and share learning.
Playing area, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clearly marked to support social distancing</li> </ul>						
Players own named, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water bottle;</li> <li>Hand gel;</li> <li>Sun cream;</li> <li>Medication.</li> </ul>						
Equipment, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cleaning.</li> <li>Limit sharing.</li> <li>Hand hygiene.</li> </ul>						
Planned activity, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Age-appropriate.</li> </ul>						

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# GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled <sup>1</sup> or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
<b>EXAMPLE</b> <i>Relevant medical information in respect of participants.</i>	<b>EXAMPLE</b> <i>Yes, if information is unknown.</i>	<b>EXAMPLE</b> <i>Yes, if information is unknown.</i>	<b>EXAMPLE</b> <i>Red</i>	<b>EXAMPLE</b> <i>Gather info prior to activity; risk assess; agree with relevant parties who needs to know any confidential info and share accordingly.</i>	<b>EXAMPLE</b> <i>Amber</i>	<b>EXAMPLE</b> <i>Review and implement any learning.</i>
Relevant medical information in respect of participants 8.2						
Emergency contact numbers for participants 8.2						
Self-Health check procedure (see <i>Health checks &amp; insurance notes</i> )						
No spitting, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hygiene protocol;</li> <li>Disciplinary procedures.</li> </ul>						
No chewing gum, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hygiene protocol;</li> <li>Club disciplinary procedures.</li> </ul>						

\* Risk ratings: red (serious issues and risk/interventions needed immediately); amber (some issues/being managed/needs monitoring); green (on track).

# GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled <sup>1</sup> or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
<b>EXAMPLE</b> Managing injuries (see The FA's Covid-19: First-aid guidance for grassroots football)	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Yes, can be dealt with as normal by a first aider with appropriate training, wearing the appropriate PPE.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Yes, can be dealt with as normal by a first aider with appropriate training, wearing the appropriate PPE.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Red	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Risk assess, discuss scenarios and protocols.	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Amber	<b>EXAMPLE</b> Review and implement any learning.
Managing injuries (see The FA's Covid-19: First-aid guidance for grassroots football)						
Access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for First Aiders (see The FA's Covid-19: First-aid guidance for grassroots football)						
Managing someone who becomes symptomatic (see The FA's First-Aid guidance notes)						
Local medical centres/first aid arrangements (See The FA's First-Aid guidance notes and the Medical Emergency Action Plan. The latter is overleaf)						
Emergency evacuation procedures						

\* Risk ratings: red (serious issues and risk/interventions needed immediately); amber (some issues/being managed/needs monitoring); green (on track).

# MEDICAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

THIS MEDICAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN IS TAKEN INTO CAREFUL CONSIDERATION

<b>CLUB NAME:</b>	
<b>CLUB ADDRESS:</b>	
<b>POSTCODE:</b>	

FIRST-AIDER/HELPER INFORMATION	
Name	Mobile Number

FIRST-AID EQUIPMENT AND FACILITY	
Item	Location
Defibrillator	
First-Aid kit	
Stretcher (if required and trained stretcher bearers present)	
First-Aid Room	

ACCESS ROUTES		
1. For Ambulance	2. First-Aid Room to Ambulance	3. Pitch to Ambulance

OTHER INFORMATION	
Nearest Hospital address: (with Emergency Department) <b>Note:</b> Include contact no.	
Directions to hospital:	
Journey Time:	
Nearest Walk in Centre (WIA) address:	

# GRASSROOTS CLUB RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

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## RISK ASSESSMENT COMPLETED BY:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
CLUB ROLE: \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE:    /    / \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
CLUB ROLE: \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE:    /    / \_\_\_\_\_

## CHECKED BY CLUB COMMITTEE MEMBER:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
CLUB ROLE: \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE:    /    / \_\_\_\_\_

## END NOTE:

Clubs are advised to undertake regular risk assessments of the club's activities, ensuring that each one is named, signed and dated by those completing and approving it. Risk assessments are 'living documents' and should be updated and reviewed regularly and kept in active use to mitigate any new or changing risks. Clubs should undertake specific employee/volunteer risk assessments for anyone undertaking high-risk roles or tasks.

**DISCLAIMER:**

This guidance is for general information only and does not constitute legal advice, nor it is a replacement for such, nor does it replace any Government or UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) advice; nor does it provide any specific commentary or advice on health-related issues. Affected organisations should therefore ensure that they seek independent advice from medical practitioners, or healthcare providers, prior to implementing any re-opening plan, as required. Independent legal advice should be sought, as required and depending on your, or relevant circumstances.

While efforts have been taken to ensure the accuracy of this information at the time of publication, the reader is reminded to check the Government website to obtain the most up-to-date information regarding social distancing and any other Government measures.



**FOR ALL**

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