



Centre for Movement Disorders

# NICE RESPONSE TO COVID-19

**NICE remains open for all services including pre-school, school and adult services.**

With the reduction of current government restrictions NICE will continue to remain vigilant and adopt COVID safe practices throughout our services and training activities. We understand that whilst government restrictions have been reduced we also know that COVID-19 is still present and we need to remain vigilant.

NICE plays a significant role in the health, wellbeing, education and therapeutic needs for our children and adults with long term conditions. We recognise that we work with vulnerable populations but also that our families need to be able to access services in a safe and timely manner. To this end we will remain open for new referrals as well as for our current families.

Where appropriate/necessary we will continue to provide remote based services to ensure that no family is left unable to access vital services.

We continue to strive to ensure that our environment reduces any risk and are following strict measures to support this. These include:

- Staff working with early years and primary aged children will continue to carry out a LFT twice weekly until the end of September – when government guidance will be reviewed.
- Access to Sanitising stations throughout the buildings.
- Increased cleaning regime at regular intervals during the day.
- Increased awareness of hand washing and cleanliness.
- Regular risk assessments to ensure we can provide the safest environment possible and the most effective provision.
- Staff will ensure ventilation is appropriate for the situation and ensure a healthy environment. This must be balanced with a comfortable room temperature.
- Staff/families may choose to wear PPE but this will no longer be mandatory.
- Staff/families who need to self-isolate due to a positive test, but have no active symptoms of COVID-19, will be facilitated to work from home or access remote services.
- Working from home will remain an option for staff where their job facilitates this. This must not impede on the effective running of NICE and all its activities.



## Centre for Movement Disorders

In line with current government guidance:

- Staff/children/adults are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 if:
  - They have received double vaccinations.
  - They have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial.
  - They are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons.
- If they do not meet these criteria they must self-isolate for a 10 day period from the first day the person displayed symptoms or had a positive test if they are asymptomatic.
- Even if you do not have symptoms, but are living with someone with COVID-19 you should still:
  - Get a PCR test on GOV.UK to check if you have COVID-19.
  - Follow advice on how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19.
  - Consider limiting contact with people who are at higher risk from COVID-19.
- In order to ensure the safety of all our families we will however request that if you are living in the same household as a person with COVID-19 that you discuss your attendance with us prior to attending. This is to ensure the safety of staff and others in your group.
- Anyone who displays COVID symptoms or has a positive LFT test must self-isolate and carry out a PCR test. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the person/pupil can return to school/work as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.

### COVID symptoms

- A new continuous cough
- A high temperature
- A loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

### Visitors

- NICE will re-open to all visitors
  - Visitors will be monitored through a booking system to ensure we manage the numbers of people in the building at any one time.
  - LFT will be available should the visitor wish to take one but no longer mandatory unless the person is working directly with a child until the end of September.
  - Visitors, where appropriate, will be requested to maintain appropriate distancing from our children and adults. This does not apply to visiting professionals who are providing a direct service with our children.



## Centre for Movement Disorders

### Meetings

- These can now be held face to face but where appropriate can remain remote. The decision of how to hold meetings will be looked at on a case-by-case situation and will take into account the needs of all members of the meeting.
- All meetings should take place in an appropriate sized room where ventilation is suitable for the numbers of people attending. Cleaning procedures will be followed before and after each meeting. This is the responsibility of the meeting host.

### Extra Action

We will be constantly monitoring our procedures to ensure that everyone who comes to NICE is as safe as possible. If there is a local outbreak we will trigger our contingency plan to reduce risk and put other measures into place to ensure everyone remains safe. This may include return to face coverings, social bubbles or in extreme circumstances may mean the closure of NICE and a move to fully remote services. This decision will not be taken lightly and will be in line with Public Health advice.

Public Health Advice will be automatically sought if 2 children, pupils, students, adults and staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period as this may suggest internal transmission.

We will seek public health advice if a pupil, student, child, adult or staff member is admitted to hospital with COVID-19. This will be done by phoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687, option 1), or in line with other local arrangements. Hospitalisation could indicate increased severity of illness or a new variant of concern.

We would like to thank all our families for their support and their commitment to keeping us all as safe as possible as well as all our funders who have made this possible. We are proud to be here for our families and to support them on their journey.

**Dr Melanie R Brown**  
CEO