



COVID-19 Strategic Intention: Children and Young People (England):

6th November 2020

Introduction

This guidance is intended to support FRS as they determine how they will respond to the Government's announcement of a second National lockdown in England.

The lockdown, announced on 31/10/20, will be in place from 5/11/20 to 2/12/20, at which time the Government's intention is to return to the tier system. This guidance is in place until 2/12/20.

Delivering CYP activities

This document provides a number of considerations for FRS to apply to the delivery of their CYP activities. Robust management of activities protects the safety of both staff and the public. It compliments existing FRS activities and their associated risk assessments and decision-making processes; it does not supersede them. This document should be read in conjunction with the previous [NFCC Strategic Intention](#) CYP document and it highlights some of the changes that now apply.

Virtual and digital delivery of CYP activities

Many FRS have successfully developed virtual and digital CYP activities and further development of resources continues. FRS are encouraged to continue with this engagement and can access toolkits to assist with this across the CYP Workplace sites. FRS are requested to continue to upload and share any new resources on Workplace as they are developed. The NFCC CYP team are working closely with FRS to support these innovative approaches that have allowed continued delivery to CYP.

It is important that FRS consider the safeguarding aspects of this delivery and ensure they have a suitable safeguarding policy in place that covers digital work.

Face-to-face delivery

The arrangements for this lockdown allows for schools, colleges and universities to remain open. However, unlike in recent months where other youth activities have also been permissible if they are Covid - Secure, there are now only a few occasions in which some youth activities can still continue.

Face to face delivery of universal programmes to children and young people **should cease** during the period of the lockdown. The only face to face delivery permitted is targeted provision to CYP who are considered vulnerable. This activity should be closely weighed against the risks and alternative digital approaches should be considered.

Prince's Trust Team programmes are college courses and young people attending are considered to be in full time education. Each FRS should decide with their funding college on their position for delivering face to face.

Youth activities for vulnerable CYP must take place in a COVID secure environment which can be either indoors or outdoors. All existing guidance still applies regarding deep cleaning of premises and following a safe and suitable risk assessment process with staff and volunteers being clear regarding their roles and responsibilities. All delivery must be consistent with social distancing guidelines.

Face-to-face delivery should only continue if staff and volunteers feel that it is safe and appropriate to do.

Definition of vulnerable

There are many factors that can be considered in determining a CYP's vulnerability and it is for this reason that the Government have not imposed a definition. It is for the Youth Professional to make this decision and it is considered that they are in the best place to understand all the contributing factors. Vulnerability of an individual may change during the period of the lockdown so FRS may wish to consider how they will triage any CYP who are referred to them. FRS, along with partners, will need to consider who will be responsible for determining who is vulnerable and who is to receive a targeted face to face provision.

The use of bubbles/support groups

There are a number of changes to how we apply the use of bubbles, now also known as support groups. The maximum number allowed in a support group remains at 15 however, unlike before, this now includes delivery staff and volunteers. So if you have four staff/volunteers delivering the activity, you will only be able to offer places to eleven CYP.

It is essential that only one support group runs at any time on COVID secure premises with a deep clean in between back to back sessions to a separate support group. The same staff/volunteers can run these sessions.

Preparing for face-to-face sessions

In order to continue with face-to-face targeted delivery, it is a requirement that the content of the sessions are planned ahead. Consideration should also be given to the length of time of the session which should be minimised to what is deemed essential to that unique cohort and activity.

Once location, content and timings have been determined the CYP who have been identified to attend, need to be invited rather than an open door activity. It is important that FRS are able to demonstrate that their delivery is for a defined group for a defined purpose.

Delivering CYP activities in the home

During the period of the lockdown, delivery of CYP activities within the home is prohibited. The delivery needs to be transferred to a COVID safe community environment.

Outreach work

There have already been reports of young people gathering in larger groups. For those FRS delivering outreach work, their employees can engage with these groups, should they deem it safe and appropriate to do so, and they will not be deemed as contravening the lockdown regulations because they are at work. It is advisable that they carry with them a copy of the [NYA guidance](#).

Further guidance

The National Youth Agency have issued guidance that takes you through the steps to consider for each stage of the pandemic and has been produced with Government approval.

NYA full guidance can be found [here](#).

Readiness level

The following table from the NYA guidance suggests the level of activity that can be undertaken in accordance with the current risk level. On entering the [NYA website](#), the current level is displayed and by registering with them, you will get the latest updates directly as they are announced. At the time of writing the level is Red.

RED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online and digital youth services• Detached/outdoor local youth services• 1-2-1 sessions with high-need young people (indoors)
AMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online and digital youth services• Detached/outdoor local youth services (consistent with social distancing guidelines)• 1-2-1 sessions• Small group sessions delivered indoors (consistent with social distancing guidelines)
YELLOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online and digital youth services• Detached/outdoor local youth services (consistent with social distancing guidelines)• 1-2-1 sessions with high-need young people• Small group sessions delivered indoors (consistent with social distancing guidelines)• Camping overnight (see section 8.0)
GREEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All services open as per normal yearly operations• Overnight trips and visits• International travel allowed within Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice