

## Covid-19 Risk Assessment – September 2020

As part of our return to football planning, the FA asked every club to carry out a risk assessment specific to Covid-19. The potential risks and the club's actions around those risks are included below. If you have any queries around these, please contact either Kirsty or Morgan who are acting as our Covid-19 Officers.



### Specific Risks & Actions to Reduce Risks

**Risk:** Transmission of Covid-19 through sharing equipment and touching outdoor surfaces.

**Actions:**

All participants have been asked to read the current FA guidelines thoroughly before attending any football activity.

All participants will be asked to bring their own, initialled, drinks bottle to sessions.

Coaches will have read the FA guidelines and ensure equipment is not shared unnecessarily and that any shared equipment (balls, goalposts, cones etc.) is sanitised before and after all football activity, as well as during activity if required, in line with FA guidance.

Participants will be asked to store personal items, kit and drinks separately from each other. Marker cones spaced 2m apart can be assigned to players for them to place their items next to.

Each player should be given their own training bib, during that session and washed between sessions.

If there is a subs bench that substitutes are using, please ensure the players are distanced and not sat for long periods close to each other.

Balls should be periodically sanitised during any sessions, especially if throw-ins are part of the football activity.

Goalkeepers should be encouraged to sanitise their gloves prior to football activity and reminded that spitting on gloves to increase grip is not acceptable.

**Risk:** Transmission of Covid-19 through shared use of indoor facilities (toilets, equipment storage areas)

**Actions:**

When accessing the lockup to get equipment out (nets, goals, line markers), access should ideally be limited to one person at a time. If more than one person has to gain access together (to carry a very heavy item for example), they should remain socially distanced.

All equipment stored indoors (goals, line markers etc) should be sanitised before and after use (with the spray provided in the lockup, please report low bottle to the Covid officers). Hands should be sanitised before and after accessing indoor spaces.

**Risk:** Transmission of Covid-19 through close contact with others.

**Actions:**

All participants will be asked to read the current FA guidelines thoroughly before attending any football activity.

All participants will be asked to maintain social distancing, in line with the current FA and government guidance, when not on the field of play (i.e. during warm ups, team discussions, drinks break and before and after sessions). We understand that this is difficult with young players so encourage parent/guardians to explain to players prior to training/games.

Goal celebrations, handshakes and other direct contact between players that is not part of the game will not be allowed.

Sessions involving different groups will be spaced across the field so that one group has no contact with other groups/teams. We may have to delay KO times so that space is given between pitches on the lower field.

In line with the current FA guidance, group sizes for training activity will remain at 30 or under. This does not apply to matches, but where possible, please keep numbers of substitutes and coaches to a minimum.

Participants will be encouraged not to car share with those outside their family or "bubble" and to follow the [latest government guidance on travel and the use of public transport](#).

When using 3G facilities, please ensure that players enter as per the posted diagram on the face book page and parents wait outside the "cage" at all times. Drinks bottles should not be shared.

Players should be told that spitting, squirting of water bottles and swilling of water that is then spat out, is completely unacceptable.

Players and coaches should be discouraged from shouting, especially when face to face.

Coaches should remain 2m from players at all times, as well as practicing social distancing with other adults.

When treating injuries parents should assess with the assistance of the first aider in the first instance, if not possible the first aider should wear gloves and face covering as provided and ensure they [follow the FA guidance](#) on treating injuries whilst considering Covid-19 transmission.

QR code Track and Trace posters will be displayed at several points, to avoid large queues of people waiting to queue for the same poster.

**Risk:** Participants do not understand or have not read the current Covid-19 guidance

**Actions:**

Opposition teams will all be advised on our latest site rules sheet along with the rest of the match info at least 4 days prior to attending an AFC Tickton home game.

Coaches will be encouraged to reinforce the guidance in person to the whole group before each session and participants will be encouraged to ask any questions if they are not sure, either directly to their coach, or to the club's Covid-19 Officers -Kirsty & Morgan.

If there are language issues or learning difficulties that make it difficult for an individual to understand what is being asked of them, this should be mentioned to the club's Covid-19 Officers and the individual in question's coach so the club can help in the best way they can for that individual.

**Risk:** Someone exhibits Covid-19 symptoms before football activity, has tested positive for Covid-19 or is asked to self-isolate due to potential contact with Covid-19.

**Actions:**

All parents have provided a contact phone number on their AFC Tickton Contract, and confirmed in writing permission for their child to return to football. Special care should be made by coaches with regard to any new players who may be trialling for their team, whose details they may not already have.

Coaches should keep a digital record of who attended **each** session and contact details for the coach(es) of any other club, who should have contact details for their own players.

Remember to include officials and coaches in this and to consider [GDPR](#) and [safeguarding](#) guidance on the storage of data.

We will be displaying government Track and Trace QR code posters at each of our venues (Leisure Centre/Longcroft) and managers all have a copy for their teams to use.

Attendees aged 16 or over who have installed the [NHS Track and Trace app](#) will be able to scan a QR code displayed on a poster at each of our venues, so as to "Check In" when they arrive.

Scanning using the app **should be encouraged, but it is not compulsory as some people do not have phones capable of running the app and others may have chosen not to install it.**

All participants should be encouraged to report any Covid-19 symptoms, positive Covid-19 test results or any contact from the health services to ask that they self-isolate due to potential contact with Covid-19 to their child's coach immediately. They will then report to the club's Covid-19 Officers immediately via the Covid WhatsApp Managers group, who will check the FA guideline and if necessary, contact the health services and take advice from them immediately.

Anyone attending football activity should be reminded that if any of the following apply, they cannot attend under any circumstances: They (or anyone they are living with) are exhibiting symptoms of Covid-19 (at the time of writing these are a new, continuous cough, a fever or high temperature, or a loss of their sense of smell or taste).

They (or anyone they are living with) has tested positive for Covid-19 and has not completed their self-isolation period or received negative test results for all symptomatic members of their household.

They have been told to self-isolate by the government track and trace service, the NHS track and trace app or by a health official.

**Risk:** A participant exhibits Covid-19 symptoms during football activity.

**Action:**

The participant in question should be kept socially distant from others, in line with government guidance, whilst all other safeguarding criteria are met. If a parent or guardian is not present, they should be informed immediately and asked to collect their child at the soonest possible time.

**Risk:** Children feel pressured into returning to football before they are ready.

**Action:**

Coaches should make it clear to parents and players that they are under no pressure to return to football if they do not feel it's safe. It is entirely their decision and that decision will be respected by the club and supported fully. Equally, if a coach does not feel ready to return at this stage, they are under no pressure to do so and under no obligation to provide training sessions.

**Risk:** Participants may have health conditions that make them particularly at risk from Covid-19

**Action:**

It is individual parents' responsibility to make their coaches and the club aware of any health conditions any participant may have that may put them at higher risk from Covid-19 and those same parents' responsibility to decide whether they are comfortable with their child attending football activities, based on the guidelines we have in place.