

When This is Over / 1-100
Information for Members, Parents & Carers

This information pack has everything you need to know about the risk mitigation and safety guidelines for our MFYT in-person sessions:

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Important notes for parents or carers:

Members **must not attend their youth theatre session** if the answer to ANY of the following questions is YES:

| |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>In the last 10 days have you, or anyone you live with, or anyone in your school or childcare bubble had any of the following symptoms*:</p> <p>A high temperature, A new, continuous cough A change to your sense of smell or taste.</p> |
| <p>Have you, anyone you live with, or anyone in your school or childcare bubble, had a positive covid-19 test in the last 10 days?</p> |
| <p>Have you been instructed by NHS Test and Trace, your school, or another organisation that you should currently be self-isolating?</p> |

Members will also be asked these questions when they arrive for their session.

*If your child is safe to attend their session, but needs to answer YES to the first question - e.g. if they have had a cough in the last 14 days but Covid-19 has been ruled out with a negative test - please inform Zoe on 07595828979.

Arriving and leaving the session:

Please arrive approx. 10 mins before the session start time. This is to allow time for extra safety checks on arrival, so the session can start promptly on the hour.

Parents/carers must wear a mask at all times, unless exempt, and use one-way systems. There may be times when you need to queue outside the hall while we sign other members in or out. Please maintain social distancing and do not congregate in the car park or foyer when dropping off/picking up. If the weather is bad, you might want to bring an umbrella, as shelter won't always be available.

Parents/carers – if accompanying your child into the building, please remain present until we have completed the sign-in questions.

Exiting the sessions: At the end of the session, members will leave one at a time via the safest route. If parents and carers are picking their child up at the door they will be asked to enter one at a time to collect their child and exit via the one-way system.

Safety Precautions and Risk Mitigation:

We've worked hard to adapt our drama games that we know our members love, and we're confident that we can still do the majority of the activities we normally would - we just need be a bit more aware of the other people in the room to help keep everybody safe.

Social Distancing:

It is really important that you follow the social distancing instructions described by your practitioner/s – especially participants aged 13 and over.

- **Everyone** will be instructed to maintain at least 2m distance from one another as much as possible, and must not be within 1m distance unless unavoidable (e.g. administering first aid)
- We will use floor markers to help implement this.
- Where 2m distance is not possible – e.g. in small group or pair work – there will be extra mitigations in place, including:
 - Using side-to-side or back-to-back working at 1m+ distance
 - Participants staying in the same groups / pairs for the duration of the session
 - Grouping/pairing participants according to:
 - a) *Age*
 - b) *School*
 - c) *Household bubbles (e.g. siblings)*

For example, members who go to the same school and are in the same year group will be paired together wherever possible, to minimise the amount of mixing across different settings.

Following these guidelines will minimise the chance of – and number of - group members needing to self-isolate should anybody in the group develop symptoms or have a positive test.

Please note: Aside from keeping our members safe, our top priority is ensuring that they have fun and enjoy their time with us. If we find that this approach means this isn't happening, we will review this.

A big part of our ongoing review of procedures involves getting feedback from our stakeholders, so if you have any feedback or concerns about these procedures, please do get in touch.

Individual Resources:

All members will have their own individual resource pack with pens, paper, notebook etc. They will also have a name tag for their dedicated chair for the duration of the session.

Face coverings:

Members aged 11 and above should wear a face covering:

- During breaks (unless eating or drinking)
- During discussion-based activities (i.e. where they are not moving around or performing)
- When using public areas – this means when arriving at the session, when going to the toilet, when on a break, when leaving the session.

Children under the age of 11 do not need to wear a face covering at any point during the session, but they can if they would prefer to.

Shouting:

Members must avoid shouting during sessions. This is to minimise airborne droplets.

Toilet trips and break times:

During break times, participants can socialise with each other, but must socially distance. We'll help with this by using floor markers in 2m+ grids.

Each hall has 3 separate toilet areas, and each area will be limited to one person at a time. The toilets will be non-gendered and numbered using our signage: Toilet 1, Toilet 2, and Toilet 3.

Asymptomatic testing

Anyone in England who does not have symptoms can now get regular rapid lateral flow tests (LFT) to check for COVID-19. We will be providing our staff with LFTs twice a week, and children in year 7 and above should be receiving tests via their school.

We hope that the widescale use of asymptomatic testing – partnered with our other in-session mitigations – will mean the likelihood of any of our members or staff needing to self-isolate is as low as possible. For anybody who would like to engage with regular testing but is not currently receiving tests via their school or workplace, you can collect up to 2 packs of 7 tests via local pharmacies or test sites. More information can be found on the [NHS website](#).

Risk Assessments:

Our full Risk Assessment is available on request, along with links and citations to government guidance we use to inform our planning. We have been **extremely thorough** and we review guidance at least once a month and/or in response to changes in government guidance.

What to bring:

Please only bring essential belongings to a session (e.g. coat, water bottle, phone, and lunch for full day sessions).

There are two important things to make sure you have at every session:

1. A personal water bottle (we recommend that you label this to avoid any mix ups)
2. Warm clothes & layers – this is because the rooms will be ventilated through opening the doors and windows so it might get cold at times.

Sessions moving online:

We may need to move our sessions online if required by law or due to group members or practitioners needing to self-isolate.

Please read on to see the key decision-making factors that will inform a move to online sessions.

For any MFYT members who have not worked with us online before, we will send you our online project agreement and will be happy to discuss any questions you may have around online safeguarding procedures and how the sessions work.

We have also provided a flow-chart at the end of this document explaining the self-isolation process should a member of the group have Covid-19 symptoms or a positive test.

Our Key Decision-Making Factors – reasons we might need to move online:

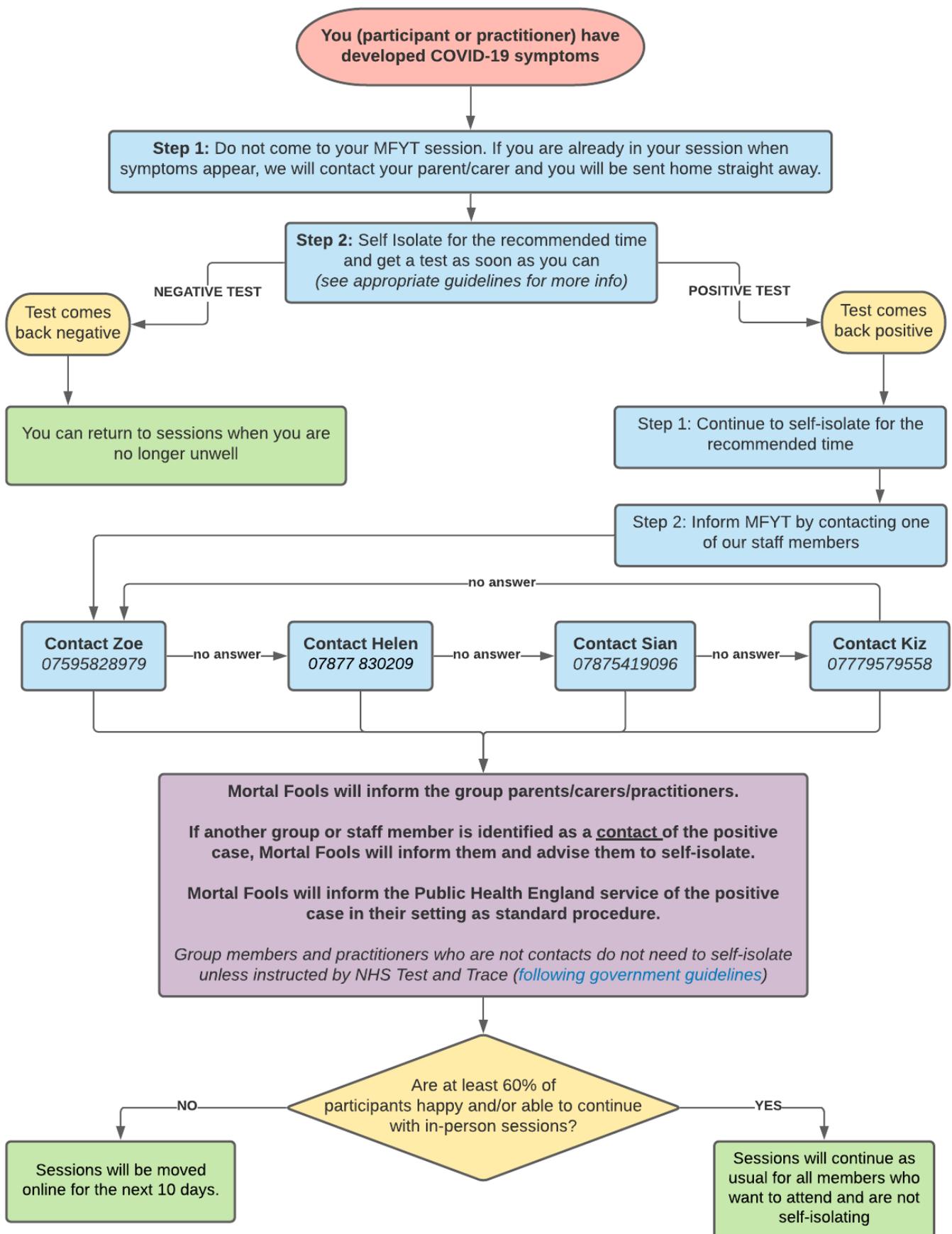
Outlined below are our key decision-making factors in relation to running in person MFYT sessions during the COVID-19 pandemic, along with the impact/actions that Mortal Fools will take if these factors change.

| # | Factor | Yes/No | Impact / Actions to be taken |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Are schools still open? | Yes | If schools are closed, we will stop delivering in-person activity and move our activity online |
| 2 | Are we operating within lawful restrictions? | Yes | If any lawful restrictions change we will take the following action: Step 1: If we are able to, we will adjust our risk assessment and working practices to continue to operate within lawful restrictions Step 2: If Step 1 is not possible, we will cease in person activity and move activity online |
| 3 | Are we restricted because of the group needing to self-isolate? | No | If yes, we must follow NHS and government guidance and sessions will be moved online until appropriate isolation period is over <i>See flow chart overleaf for self-isolation process</i> |
| 4 | Are c60% or more of the participants and their parents/carers comfortable attending in person? | Yes | If over 40% of the group participants and their parents/carers are no longer comfortable attending, we will move activity online |

Guidance Notes:

The key guidance documents we are following are [National Youth Agency COVID-19 Guidance](#) and the Government Guidance for [Protective measures for holiday and after-school clubs, and other out-of-school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

For parents/carers, the government has also created [Guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)



Please note: To support NHS Test and Trace in reaching close contacts, Mortal Fools will keep a record of:

- children and staff in specific groups
- close contact that takes places between children and staff in different groups/rooms
- the timing of the activities/interactions

When reporting a positive case to Test and Trace, where possible you should inform them if you/your child attended a Mortal Fools Youth Theatre session any time from 2 days before they developed their symptoms (or, if they did not have any symptoms, from 2 days before the date their positive test was taken), and up to 10 days after.

[NHS guidelines: How long to self-isolate](#)

[Government Guidelines: What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus \(COVID-19\) in a setting](#)