

Risk assessment (For Football Activity during COVID-19 as per FA Announcement on 18/07/2020) V1.1

Organisation name: FC Abbey Meads

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We (The FA) would strongly recommend a phased return to competitive football activity as follows:

- Until 31 July – When ready, you can begin competitive training, with the overall group size (inclusive of coaches) being limited to 30 people;
- From August – Competitive matches to begin, for example pre-season fixtures, festivals and small sided football competitions;
- From September – Grassroots leagues, men's National League System, Women's Football Pyramid tiers 3 to 6, and FA Competitions can commence.

Clubs, players, coaches, match officials, league officials, volunteers, parents/carers, spectators and football facility providers should **read our full guidelines**, which are accessible below, in addition to the [latest Government guidance on COVID-19](#).

A return to competitive football should only happen once clubs and facility providers have completed the necessary risk assessments and comprehensive plans are in place.

A summary of key points to consider from our guidelines are listed for ease below:

- Everyone should self-assess for COVID-19 symptoms before every training session or match. If you are symptomatic or living in a household with possible or actual COVID-19 infection you must not participate or attend;
- Clubs and facility providers should ensure that their facility is compliant with current Government legislation and guidance related to COVID-19;
- Competitive training is now permitted, with groups limited to a maximum of 30 people, including coaches;
- Competitive match play is permitted, with social distancing in place before and after the match, and in any breaks in play;
- Players and officials should sanitise hands before and after a game as well as scheduled breaks throughout a game or training session;
- Ball handling should be kept to a minimum with most contact via a boot and the ball disinfected in breaks of play;

- Youth football coaches are encouraged to limit persistent close proximity of participants during match play and training;
- Goal celebrations should be avoided;
- Equipment should not be shared, and goalkeepers should ensure they disinfect their gloves regularly in breaks in training or matches and thoroughly afterwards. Where possible, coaches should only handle equipment in training;
- Where possible, players, coaches and officials should arrive changed and shower at home. Use of changing and shower facilities must follow government advice on the use of indoor facilities;
- Participants should follow best practice for travel including minimising use of public transport and walking or cycling if possible. People from a household or support bubble can travel together in a vehicle
- Clubs should keep a record of attendees at a match or training session, including contact details, to support NHS Test and Trace;
- Clubs should ensure they are affiliated with their County Football Association.

What are the hazards?	Who might be affected and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to manage this risk?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Done
Players not following social distancing where possible	Players, coaches and parents can be affected by this if social distancing guidance isn't followed. Minimum of 2 metres where possible during contact training or matches	Club committee have an action plan in place, which will be shared with the club coaches to cascade to players and parents on the need for following all rules set and following government guidance.	Prepare sessions prior to arrival of players and parents, so as when people arrive you can direct as appropriate ensuring rules are followed.	Committee, coaches, parents, and players	On day of training	Ongoing
Player showing COVID-19 symptoms	Players, coaches, and parents can be affected. If a player with symptoms get close of touches something that is touched by someone else, this could cause cross contamination.	Committee have created a document that parents must fill out on the day of a training session, to certify that the players have not had symptoms in the past 7 days and members of the household have not in the previous 14 days.	Coaches to be aware of players that may be showing symptoms and asking them to leave if there is someone with such symptoms. Also, would need to stay away from session for up to 14 days.	Committee, coaches, players, and parents.	02/06/2020	Ongoing
Parent showing COVID-19 symptoms	Players, coaches, and parents can be affected. If a parent with symptoms has been close to the son or daughter, the player may also be carrying the disease.	Committee have created a document that parents must fill out on the day of a training session, to certify that the players have not had symptoms in the past 7 days and members of the household have not in the previous 14 days.	Parents need to be honest in filling out the forms provided, this will ensure the coach is able to comfortably deliver the session knowing there have been no recently present symptoms of participants or parents.	Parents	On day of training	Ongoing

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COVID-19 symptoms	Players, coaches, and parents can be affected. If anyone has symptoms, they could spread with players or parents they get near too or via cross contamination on equipment.	Anyone who shows symptoms needs to need to go home, self-isolate and contact NHS track & Trace and arrange a test informing them of whom you may have been in contact with.	Coaches need to cancel sessions if anyone has shown symptoms.	Coaches	Ongoing	Ongoing
Cleaning of equipment	This can affect coaches, players and parents by a possible player having symptoms. They could spread the disease via cross contamination.	Coaches will be able to purchase antibacterial cleaning supplies to clean equipment such as footballs. Antibacterial hand gel for players to use when attending and leaving the session. Cleaning balls in breaks of play and at the before/ end of the session.	A rigid cleaning programme should combat cross contamination.	Committee and coaches	Ongoing	Ongoing
Group size	Size of groups cannot exceed 30, having more breaks current government guidance, this can affect participants, coaches, and parents.	Club will ensure FA and government guidance is followed, parents can watch the session nearby following social distancing and abiding by safeguarding regulation. A max of 30 per group including the coach is permitted at any time.	Coaches need to follow this, and the club will ensure this is followed.	Coaches	Ongoing	Ongoing
Player gets injured	Coaches and players could be affected. If a serious injury takes place, an ambulance or 111 needs to be called. If a minor injury, then players sit out and parents deal with injury or player goes home to recover.	This will be communicated with all and documents will be shared, with the risk of cross contamination the coach needs to be careful not to add to the possible cross contamination.	Coaches will need to share the risks of emergency aid and that we do not have the appropriate PPE to deal with risks.	Coaches, parents and players	Ongoing	Ongoing
Equipment placement including players equipment	Coaches, players and parents may be affected by players placing water bottles or equipment nearby, this could cause cross contamination.	Coaches will need to make an area for bottles and equipment to go into, ideally placing cones to separate each bottle and communicating this prior to sessions.	Coaches ensuring they do this before players arrival and communicating this prior to the session is key to the success of this.	Coaches, players, and parents	Ongoing	Ongoing
Joining and leaving session	Coaches, players and parents could be affected by not following social distancing. The need for players to leave and joining straight away and not being side-tracked by friend can cause cross contamination.	Coaches will communicate people need to all before the session that there should be no lingering after the session or meeting before the session starts to avoid cross contamination. Players should leave and arrive with parents or if agreed with coaches, alone.	Coaches ongoing monitoring of this and reminding people if rules are not being followed.	Coaches, players, and parents	Ongoing	Ongoing
Close contact and PPE	Coaches and players could be affected by a possible situation	Coaches will be provided with a CPR resuscitation mask for use in the event CPR is needed. This	Coaches are emergency aid trained so are aware of the risks which are being mitigated	Coaches and players	Ongoing	Ongoing

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because of emergency aid	where close contact is required. This is important to note that chest compressions and mouth-to-mouth in CPR are both "aerosol generating" and can spread COVID-19 in such a way.	provides a level of protection for coaches and players alike to reduce the risk of cross contamination, however coaches are reminded that there is still a significant level of risk of cross contamination. Therefore, it is the coach's personal decision to administer CPR.	by use of the masks. The defib will be cleaned after use. The committee will be made aware if it has been used and cleaned appropriately.			
Ball handling	Coaches and players could be affected. As per FA guidance, ball handling should be kept to a minimum.	Advise players to kick balls where possible, maybe use kick ins for training matches to reduce risk of cross contamination.	Cleaning of balls regularly with disinfectant will help keep the equipment clean.	Coaches and players	Ongoing	Ongoing
Regular cleaning of hands	Coaches and players can be affected by this.	Cleaning of hands when players arrive or leave the session, this must continue.	Additional cleaning in between breaks of play in matches or competitive training.	Coaches and players	Ongoing	Ongoing
Goal celebrations	Players are the only people who can be affected by this directly.	Players are not permitted to have goal celebrations with team members due to potential for proximity interaction. This must be avoided due to possible spreading of COVID-19.	This will be monitored closely by coaching teams	Coaches and players	Ongoing	Ongoing
Equipment sharing	Coaches and players can be affected by equipment sharing.	Sharing of equipment is still not permitted, due to risks of cross contamination. Cleaning of any equipment must still happen, especially footballs etc.	Monitor equipment on the pitch and clean before and after use and make sure nobody interacts with the equipment, unless permitted.	Coaches and players	Ongoing	Ongoing