

DUNCAN PRIVATE HIRE COVID-19 Risk Assessment

COVID-19 is an illness that has been with us now for 2 years and is now moving into a new phase known as “Living with COVID-19”. The pandemic is not over and it is clear that there is considerable uncertainty about the path that the pandemic will now take in the UK. Vaccines have enabled the gradual and safe removal of restrictions on everyday life over the past year and remain the approach to living with the virus in the future.

Living with and managing the virus will mean maintaining our wall of protection and continuing the safe behaviours that we all have learned to manage the risk during this tough period.

This Updated “**Risk Assessment**” is for dealing with and continuing to minimise the risk of the COVID-19 situation whilst operating Wiltshire Council “Home to School Transport”. It does not cover all scenarios however covers what is both practical and achievable by driver support. The controls within this Risk Assessment are not mandated but encouraged in order to support the fight in minimising the spread of COVID-19.

This risk assessment is a “**Live Document**” and as such, will be subject to both update and/or change as the COVID-19 situation re-develops or decreases.

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed	Controls required	Additional controls
Spread of COVID 19 Variants	Staff. PA's. Visitors to your vehicle. Drivers. Vulnerable groups – Children with additional needs. Elderly, Pregnant workers, those with existing underlying health conditions Anyone else who may have contact with the	<p>Before the journey:</p> <p>As of the 27th January 2022 face coverings were made non-compulsory. Face coverings limit the volume and travel distance of expiratory droplets dispersed when talking, breathing, and coughing. A face covering without vents or holes will also filter out particles containing the virus from inhaled and exhaled air, reducing the chances of infection. Drivers are encouraged to continue to wear a face covering and are issued free off charge from the office.</p> <p>As of 24th February 2022 there is no legal requirement to self-isolate after a positive COVID test and unvaccinated close contacts will also not be legally required to isolate however, as a business Duncan Private Hire would encourage any driver who tests positive on a lateral flow test to continue to do so therefore limiting COVID-19 further spread to others and especially those that are most at risk/vulnerable.</p> <p>COVID-19 Statutory Sick Pay will remain in force until 24th March 2022 when the rules will revert to standard Statutory Sick Pay.</p>	Drivers are requested where possible to continue to social distance between parents, passengers as far as is practicable to help reduce COVID-19 transmission.

<p>Spread of COVID 19 Variants</p>	<p>vehicle or those affected. Staff.</p>	<p>Drivers are encouraged to continue to wash or sanitise their hands before starting work and should sanitise door handles/controls, handrails, steering wheel, and other controls before using them. Anti-Bacterial spray will continue to be provided.</p> <p>Collection of children (home & school):</p> <p>Good ventilation of enclosed spaces is important, drivers should continue (weather permitting) to open windows and/or skylights or, use the vehicle's air-conditioning system (if fitted) if it is not possible to allow fresh air to enter the vehicle directly.</p> <p>Wherever possible, passengers should continue to observe social distancing on board the vehicle.</p> <p>The parents of very young children may wish to board the vehicle to assist with seatbelts etc. This is permitted but should be limited one parent on board at any time.</p> <p>Hygiene/cleaning – drivers</p> <p>As COVID-19 has not gone away drivers should continue the small things that have been learnt over the past 2 years and continue small but helpful instances such as continuing to wash or sanitise their hands before and after each journey.</p> <p>Maintain good ventilation by keeping windows on vehicles open where possible (weather permitting).</p> <p>As it has become good practice, drivers should continue to ensure that door handles/controls, handrails, steering wheel, and other controls are cleaned thoroughly before using them. Drivers should use the anti-bacterial spray that has been provided to them.</p> <p>Use of PPE:</p> <p>Driver face masks continue to be provided free of charge should any driver require them.</p>	<p>Maintaining social distancing between parents, passengers and driver as far as is practicable will reduce potential levels of COVID-19 transmission.</p> <p>PPE re-supply should be requested through the main office.</p>
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Owned by	Duncan Private Hire
Produced by	C Ferguson
Signed:	<i>C Ferguson</i> (Original Signed)