



# Personal Protective Equipment

Supporting you during the  
coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic



# What is coronavirus?

Coronavirus also known as COVID-19 is a new illness that can affect the lungs and airways. It is mainly spread through contact with people and with droplets from an infected person. The contact can be hand shaking or by touching objects with the virus on and then touching the mouth, nose and eyes.

The most common symptoms of coronavirus are persistent dry cough and / or a high temperature above 37.8C.

If you are showing symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) please let us know in advance and we can either re-arrange the visit or have a chat using a social media app of your choice such as Facetime or WhatsApp at a time that suits you.

## Personal Protective Equipment

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To minimise the risk of spreading the virus, especially if we need to visit you in your home or care setting, our staff will follow NHS and government guidelines on wearing and using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This will help protect you and our staff. The PPE can consist of:

- Disposable gloves
- Disposable plastic apron or a coverall gown
- Fluid repellent surgical mask or eye/face protection mask
- Hand sanitiser.

When our staff arrive at your home, they will put on the PPE before entering your home. Our staff will be practicing social distancing as advised by the government: they will not shake hands with you and will

clean their hands using hand sanitiser and will ask about your handwashing facilities. Where possible our staff will maintain a two-metre distance.

After your visit is complete, our staff will remove the PPE, double bag and secure it tightly. They will ask if you feel comfortable disposing of the bag in your household waste or an outside bin.

## Disposing of the PPE

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The information below **will only apply** if you are showing symptoms of Covid-19 or have been tested positive:

- The PPE will be double bagged and secured tightly.
- The bag should then be kept separately from your household waste until 3 days (72 hours) has passed.
- After 3 days these bags can be added to the usual household waste bin for disposal as normal.
- You may wish to find a box and keep it in an area in your home that isn't frequently used and ensuring it is out of reach from children.

We hope this explains how our staff will be protecting you and themselves when they visit your home. If at any time you feel uncomfortable with our staff in your home, please ask them to politely leave and to re-arrange the meeting using a social media app such as Facetime or WhatsApp.

## Community Hub

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Our Community Hub helpline can provide the latest coronavirus information and government advice as well local befriending services.

Telephone: **(020) 8871 6555**

Email: **[covid19support@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:covid19support@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk)**

## Our contact details

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**Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.**

**Telephone:** (020) 8871 7707

**SMS Phone:** 07940 775107

**Email:** [accessteam@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:accessteam@wandsworth.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/adultsocialcare](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/adultsocialcare)

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**(020) 8871 7707**

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