



SUSPECTED CASES OF COVID-19

POLICY BRIEF & PURPOSE

Blairscove House & Restaurant Ltd is committed to ensuring the health and safety of all employees. To this end, this policy sets out steps that the Company will take in the event that there is a suspected case of Covid-19.

This coronavirus (COVID-19) company policy is susceptible to changes with the introduction of additional Government guidelines. If so, we will update you as soon as possible.

SCOPE

This coronavirus policy applies to all of our employees. It is essential that all employees, including those remote working remotely, read through this action plan, to ensure we collectively and uniformly respond to this challenge.

COVID-19 - RISK OF TRANSMISSION

Evidence to date suggests that transmission of Coronavirus from one person to another is more likely to occur when someone has close contact (within 2 metres) with an infected person.

The risk increases the longer that person is in close contact with the infected individual. The virus is most likely to pass to others when large respiratory droplets containing the virus are passed directly to the mouth, eyes or noses of people who are in close contact with an infected person who is actively coughing and sneezing.

It is also possible although it is probably a lesser risk that a person may become infected when they touch an object or surface that has been contaminated by respiratory secretions from an infected person and they then touch their own mouth, nose or eyes, for example when they touch a door handle and then rub their eyes or put something in their mouth. Under most circumstances, the amount of infectious virus on any contaminated surfaces is likely to have decreased significantly by 72 hours.

Regular cleaning of frequently-touched hard surfaces and hands will therefore help to reduce the risk of infection. There is little evidence that people who do not have any respiratory symptoms can transmit the virus to others. Once a person with suspected COVID-19 is identified in the Centre setting all surfaces that the person has been in contact with should be cleaned and disinfected immediately.

GUIDELINES WHERE THERE HAS BEEN A SUSPECTED CASE OF COVID-19

The following are the steps that will be taken when cleaning / disinfecting any rooms where there has been a person with a suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19.

- Keep the door to the room closed for at least one hour before cleaning. Do not use the room until the room has been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected and all surfaces are dry.
- The person assigned to clean the area should avoid touching their face while they are cleaning and should wear household or disposable single use non-sterile nitrile gloves and a disposable plastic apron
- Open the window while you are cleaning
- Clean the environment and the furniture using disposable cleaning cloths and a household detergent followed or combined with Chlorine based product such as sodium hypochlorite

(often referred to as household bleach). Chlorine based products are available in different formats including wipes.

- Pay special attention to frequently touched flat surfaces, the backs of chairs, couches, door handles and any surfaces or items that are visibly soiled with body fluids.
- Place all waste that has been in contact with the person, including used tissues, and masks if used, in a plastic rubbish bag and tie when full – do not over fill the bag.
- Remove your apron and gloves and discard into the waste bag and clean your hands. Place the plastic bag into a second bin bag and tie it, then clean your hands.
- Store the bag in a safe place until the result of the test is available. If the person tests negative, place the waste in the normal domestic waste bin. In the event the person tests positive, Public Health will advise what to do next.
- Once the room has been cleaned and disinfected and all surfaces are dry, the room can be put back into use.
- There is no need to clean carpets (if present) unless there has been a spillage.

The above steps apply where any room occupied only by the person with the suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19. In the event that a communal area needs to be cleaned for these purposes, then the following points are also specifically noted.

- Clean the area with household detergent followed by a disinfectant (as outlined above) as soon as is practicably possible,
- Pay special attention to frequently touched sites including door handles, backs of chairs, taps of washbasins, toilet handles.
- Once cleaning and disinfection have been completed and all surfaces are completely dry, the area can be put back into use.