

## **LIBERTAS STAFF UPDATE 01 OCTOBER 2020**

You will I'm sure, be well acquainted with the most recent changes to government guidance relating to the Coronavirus pandemic. For us, work continues unabated and there are currently no significant changes to guidance for health and social care workers.

### **PPE**

There are scenarios in national guidance which are less restrictive than our own. For simplicity, to eliminate the risk of error, and to provide a higher degree of protection, our PPE specification is more stringent. PPE for Libertas is:

- Single use gloves
- Single use apron
- Sessional use FRSM
  - Change when dirty or damaged
  - Change directly following a known COVID case
  - Remove using the ear straps, try not to touch the mask itself
- Eye protection, where a risk of droplet contamination exists
  - Customer (or someone in the house) is coughing, vomiting etc

You should have an adequate supply of PPE, including eye protection. If you have any problem with supply, or any questions about PPE, donning, doffing etc, please do contact your Team Leader or Manager.

### **SELF-ISOLATION**

The rules, and they are now rules, around self-isolation are:

- With a positive COVID test or with COVID symptoms, you must isolate for 10 days
  - o Check symptoms here: <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19>
  - o Get a test o After 10 days you may end isolation, even where a cough continues
  - o If after 10 days you still have a high temperature, seek medical advice
- People in the same household must isolate for 14 days

The penalties for failing to follow what is now law are severe, and it is a company requirement that you self-isolate if you have symptoms of, or test positive for, COVID-19. Penalties for breaking isolation rules are:

- £1,000, or
- £4,000 where the isolation is recklessly broken
  - o This could mean touching or face-to-face contact or going to a place where you know there will be other people E.g. shopping centres, public transport or indeed, work.

Many schools are sending people home where a member of a 'bubble' or year group displays symptoms. At the moment there is no guidance for other people in the household to take any measures – unless of course someone becomes symptomatic.

If your child is sent home from school:

- Anyone (e.g. your child) who has had close contact with the confirmed or suspected COVID case should self-isolate for 14 days
  - o Close contact means face-to-face or touching If you have any questions about isolation, talk to your Team Leader or Manager.