

Wareham & Purbeck Skip Hire

3a Blackhill Road, Holton Heath Trading Park, Holton Heath, Poole, Dorset BM16 6LS

Tel: 01202 620 077 01929 463 030 Fax: 01202 620 088

Registered waste carrier: CBDU57610. Waste Transfer Station No: EAWML/23716. Vat reg No: 675 8975 57

www.warehamskiphire.co.uk

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) Safe Work Policy

Updated September 2022

Compiled with the assistance of:



Chris Cahill Ltd
Health and Safety Management Services

Fellow of IIRSM
Chartered Safety and Health Practitioner

Chris Cahill Ltd. Registered Number: 03386088 (England & Wales)
Managing Director C P Cahill Pg. Cert: IMaPS: FIIRSM.RSP: FinsLM: ACIEH: MIAI: CMIOSH. (OSHCR Consultant)



Statement

Wareham & Purbeck Skip Hire would like to reassure our work force and valued customers that we are treating the Covid-19 Pandemic very seriously and have taken measures to keep our workforce, our partner contractors, and customers safe at this time.

Everyone should be cautious while managing the risks as cases of COVID-19 remain high. Like many viruses, Covid-19 is transmitted through liquid particles, released when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

We now know that Covid-19 can also be transmitted through tiny aerosol particles, meaning spending time in a poorly ventilated space with someone who has Covid-19 even if social distance is maintained, may lead to infection.

Vaccines are significantly reducing the link between infections and severe disease and death. HM Government have published that with a sufficiently high proportion of the population vaccinated, the country can learn to live with COVID-19 without the need for the stringent economic and social restrictions.

Therefore Wareham & Purbeck Skip Hire will actively encourage all persons to take up the offer of the vaccine at the earliest opportunity.

To further reduce the risk of infection at work good ventilation is being maintained, extra sanitation measures are being rolled out for all front-line operatives and back-office staff.

Although we are slowly moving into further steps of the HM Government Living With covid guidance the pandemic is not over.

We will adjust this guidance accordingly once HM Government issue new updates.

This is a difficult time for everyone, and we would like to thank all our loyal staff and customers for the continued support.



Signed:

Date: 18-09-2022

Mrs Julie Andrews (Partner)

The simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other are:

The legal requirement of social distancing measures has ended in the workplace, and it will no longer be necessary for the government to instruct people to work from home. However, as an employer we have a legal responsibility to protect our employees and others from risks to their health and safety.

The Main simple actions are:

1. Wash hands- keep washing your hands regularly.
2. Maintain social distancing.
3. Keep our workplace maintained to a high state of cleanliness.
4. Maintain good ventilation (fresh air).
5. Wear a face covering when there is close contact between people in enclosed and busy spaces.

Understanding the risks of COVID-19

The risk of catching or passing on COVID-19 can be higher in certain places and when doing certain activities. The main way of spreading COVID-19 is through close contact with an infected person.

When someone with COVID-19 breathes, speaks, coughs or sneezes, they release particles (droplets and aerosols) containing the virus that causes COVID-19. These particles can be breathed in by another person. The particles can also land on surfaces and be passed from person to person via touch.

In general, the risk of catching or passing on COVID-19 is higher:

- In crowded spaces, where there are more people who might be infectious.
- In enclosed indoor spaces where there is limited fresh air.

Some activities can also increase the risk of catching or passing on COVID-19. This happens where people are doing activities which generate more particles as they breathe heavily, such as manual working, hard physical activity or raising their voices.

The risk is greatest where these factors overlap, for example in crowded indoor spaces where people are raising their voices. In situations where there is a higher risk of catching or passing on COVID-19, persons should be particularly careful to follow the guidance on keeping safe as we return to normality.

Communicating with our Workforce

To ensure our staff are kept up to date with how safety measures are being implemented or updated, Wareham & Purbeck Skip Hire will use simple, clear messaging to explain guidelines using images and clear language.

The company will take into account persons for whom English may not be their first language and those with protected characteristics such as visual impairments, etc.

Social distancing

All persons are asked to maintain social distancing in the workplace wherever possible.

Social distancing will apply to all parts of our business, not just the place where people spend most of their time, but also entrances and exits, break rooms, canteens, and similar settings.

Common areas and Welfare rooms

Wareham & Purbeck Skip Hire have implemented systems to stagger break times to reduce pressure on break rooms or places to eat. We also encourage persons to use safe outside areas for breaks.

PPE

As a business we do not encourage the use of additional PPE to protect our work force against COVID-19 as per HM Government guidance however workers must continue to wear the specific task required PPE that normally is required.

Face coverings

In England, face coverings are no longer required by law. The government suggests that you continue to wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces where you may come into contact with other people you do not normally meet.

You should also wear a face covering in indoor places not listed here where social distancing may be difficult and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet.

Waste Disposal

All disposable PPE/RPE to be double bagged before disposal in a responsible manner.

Ventilation

Adequate ventilation reduces how much virus is in the air. It helps reduce the risk from aerosol transmission, when someone breathes in small particles (aerosols) in the air after a person with the virus has been in the same enclosed area.

Everybody will benefit if we can use the natural ventilation to bring in fresh air from outside

Signing of Documents

This document has been issued to, and understood by all Wareham & Purbeck Skip Hire operatives, the requirement to sign these documents has been suspended during this pandemic to avoid the possibility of cross contamination.

Vehicles

To maintain adequate separation: One vehicle = one operative where practicable.

Operative to maintain cleanliness of vehicle interior.

Where sharing vehicles such as a works minibus, limit passengers, leave seats empty and keep vehicle ventilated. All high contact surfaces to be kept clean.

Single person or contactless refuelling where possible has been introduced.

Work operations will be scheduled to limit exposure to large crowds and rush hours where appropriate.

Unnecessary contact at gatehouse security, yard and warehouses will be discouraged by maximising use of electronic paperwork where possible and reviewing procedures to enable safe exchange of paper copies. All drivers visiting our premises will have free access to our welfare facilities when required.

The business encourages all drivers to stay in their vehicles where this does not compromise their safety and existing safe working practice.

Accidents, security, and other incidents

In an emergency, for example, an accident, provision of first aid, fire or break-in, people do not have to comply with social distancing guidelines if it would be unsafe.

People involved in the provision of assistance to others should pay particular attention to sanitation measures immediately afterwards including washing hands.

Persons Showing Covid Symptoms

Any persons who have symptoms of COVID-19 - a high temperature, new and persistent cough, or loss in sense of taste or smell (anosmia) - however mild, are asked not to attend our workplace.

HM Government Living with Covid Plan.

Individuals can still reduce the risk of catching and passing on COVID-19 by:

- a) Getting vaccinated.
- b) Letting fresh air in if meeting indoors or meeting outside.
- c) Wearing a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces, especially where you come into contact with people you do not usually meet, when rates of transmission are high.
- d) Trying to stay at home if you are unwell.
- e) Taking a test if you have COVID-19 symptoms and staying at home and avoiding contact with other people if you test positive.
- f) Washing your hands and following advice to 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'.

From 1 April 2022, guidance to the public and to businesses has been consolidated in line with public health advice

Equality in our workplace

Wareham & Purbeck Skip Hire will ensure that, all measures and adjustments put in place take account of our duties under the equality's legislation.

The business will understand and take into account the particular circumstances of those with different protected characteristics. The partners will involve and communicate appropriately with workers whose protected characteristics might either expose them to a different degree of risk or might make any steps we are considering inappropriate or challenging for them.

Wareham & Purbeck Skip Hire will make reasonable adjustments to avoid disabled workers being put at a disadvantage, and to make sure that the steps we take do not have an unjustifiable negative impact on some groups compared to others, for example those with caring responsibilities or those with religious commitments.

Risk Assessment

With these identified controls utilised Wareham & Purbeck Skip Hire have assessed the risk to persons as tolerable.

Review

We will review the contents of this document as required and amend these arrangements accordingly.

Amendment & Review Record

Document number	HSM07	Document Owner	Julie Andrews
Origination date	15 th April 2020		
Amended by	Amendment Date	Reason for Amendment	
CC	18-09-2020	HM Gov Covid guidance updated	
CC	18-09-2021	HM Gov Covid guidance updated	
CC	24-01-2022	HM Gov Covid guidance updated	
CC	16-05-2022	HM Gov Covid guidance updated	
CC	18-09-2022	Periodic update & review	

Policy end