

Othona Bradwell COVID-19 Policy

The government lifted most of the legal restrictions to control COVID-19 on the 19th July. In line with that we have updated our covid policy for guests visiting Othona. It is still possible to catch and spread COVID-19 even if you are fully vaccinated and we will try to minimise the risk of this for those staying here. The emphasis now is on everyone taking responsibility to help minimise the spread by using common sense and considering the risks. We ask that anyone visiting is respectful of other guests at Othona.

General guidelines:

- Any guest booked to stay with us must not come if they have any of the following symptoms; cough, fever, loss of taste/smell within the last 14 days before their visit, unless these symptoms are due to a pre-existing medical condition.
- We reserve the right to refuse entry or cancel a reservation should anyone show symptoms for the protection and safety of the other guests and staff.
- We will provide lateral flow tests for anyone staying who would like to take one and will follow NHS guidelines if anyone should test positive whilst they are here.
- We will not require an NHS COVID pass for visitors but would encourage all those coming here to have both vaccinations when available, unless of course they are unable to for medical reasons.
- There is no legal limit now on the number of people that can meet together but the government advice is to minimise the proximity and number of social contacts.
- We are supporting the NHS Track and Trace programme by displaying the QR code for our site in the reception area, you can download the NHS COVID-19 app on your phone and scan in when you arrive.
- There is no longer a requirement to wear a face covering indoors or to socially distance, however we expect all guests to be mindful of those around them and to wear face coverings when in close proximity to others.
- We will ensure that our communal spaces are kept well ventilated.
- All of our staff and volunteers have attended the HIT course (Infectious disease control) to minimise the spread of infectious diseases.
- We will employ more stringent and regular cleaning protocols to minimise risk (detailed in the Cleaning protocols page)
- Staff have been trained on the correct wearing of PPE and relevant infection prevention procedures.
- All of our staff will self-assess for any signs of coronavirus on a daily basis and appropriate action in line with NHS guidelines will be taken should any become ill.
- We will ask guests to bring their own hand sanitiser for personal use (this must be >62% alcohol).
- We would encourage guests to make contact free payments or pay by bank transfer/paypal if possible.
- **Whilst we will endeavour to minimise any risk of infection during your stay here it will be your responsibility to keep yourself safe. If you see anything of concern please bring it to our attention.**
- We reserved the right to close the Centre without notice if necessary should an outbreak of coronavirus occur during your stay here.

Changes to Communal areas

- There will be sanitising stations set up at key points around the buildings with paper tissue
- Paper hand towels will be available in all hand washing areas
- There will be increased cleaning of all communal areas with multi-surface disinfectant effective against coronavirus.
- Where possible the doors within the buildings will be propped open to minimise hand contact.
- We will put a priority system into place in corridors with the appropriate signage and arrows.
- The kitchen staff will serve meals at the counter and guests can come up table by table to collect these.
- All cutlery and crockery to be cleaned and disinfected after use.
- All staff have been trained to food hygiene level 2
- Tea and coffee will be available in the dining room and guests can use the hot tap in the dining area.
- We would ask that you leave showers and toilets clean after use and provide appropriate disinfectant to wipe areas before use and after.
- We will introduce more stringent cleaning procedures for all the bathrooms.

Bedrooms

- We will assign bedrooms bearing any physical requirements in mind but you might not get a preferred room necessarily.
- We would ask that you bring your own bedding and towels
- Each bedroom will be cleaned between usage with particular attention paid to all touch points (door handles, light switches etc)

Gardens

- There is plenty of space in the grounds here to enable social distancing

Chapel and Duties

- We would like the community to be fully involved here as always. We would like volunteers to plan and run Chapel services.
- A key part of coming to Othona is joining in with the work. We will have a duty list for those staying here, however the staff will regularly clean the toilet facilities. We would ask that those in the community take responsibility for their own table cleaning and to leave the bathroom clean after use. Also there are plenty of tasks that need doing in the gardens.

Illness and cancellation

- If you feel unwell during your stay here please inform a member of staff immediately preferably by ringing or texting. We will contact the NHS 111 service for guidance.
- If any guest or staff member should contract coronavirus whilst here we will contact the appropriate help lines and track and trace. We will follow the advice given. For a staff member we will get them to self-isolate immediately in the staff accommodation and notify all guests staying here. We will follow the guidance given which may include asking guests to return home.

- If we have to close the Centre and cancel bookings we will of course fully refund the cost of the holiday including the deposit. If you have to cancel your trip then our normal cancellation policy will apply, however if there are extenuating circumstances a refund will be at the warden's discretion.
- We ask if people can let us know if they develop symptoms within 3 days of leaving.

This policy will be reviewed and revised as required following government guidelines