

Date: 30th September 2021.

Outdoor Events Current Status: Events recommenced with care

Indoor Events Current Status: Events recommenced with care

Covid-19 Event Guidance

The WSF are carefully considering the ongoing risk to our members of contracting Covid-19 and possibly requiring medical assistance due to such infection and weighing it against the benefit of the social support provided through regional events. As per the government guidelines, all social activities should be engaged upon in a safe and responsible way to lower everyone's risk of contracting Covid-19. As we are a relatively small population, there is little data available on Covid-19 infections and WS, but the data we do have suggests that people with WS have no greater risk to adverse reactions to Covid-19 than the general population. Long Covid-19 is also a risk we know little about. All families are urged to consider their own family situations and the potential risks of Covid-19 when considering attending a WSF event.

Upon the recommencement of WSF events, the following guidance should be followed.

1. Individuals should carefully consider whether they wish to attend any WSF event and exercise their personal choice in doing so. This includes staff members, trustees and Regional Co-coordinators (RCs). No-one is under any obligation to attend any WSF event / meeting.
2. Anyone who has close contact with someone with Covid-19, tested positive for Covid-19 or had any Covid-19 symptoms in the 14 days prior to an event, should not attend the event.
3. All adults attending a WSF event must have had two covid vaccinations (unless recommended not to do so on medical grounds).
4. The day before a WSF event, all those intending to attend the event should take a lateral flow test (those who this would cause distress to due to age or disability would not be expected to do so). Any individual receiving a positive test should notify the lead organiser / RC and NOT attend.
5. Those attending should email the lead organiser / RC with the full names of all those attending with contact numbers. This information will be shared with NHS Track and Trace should it be necessary to do so.
6. All attendees should understand that young children and those with WS may encroach upon their personal space.
7. Where possible, 1m social distance should be adhered to with non-household members (outdoors), 2m social distance (indoors).
8. WSF stickers will be available for families to wear should they like to be given a greater distance by attendees. Please notify the lead organiser / RC so that they can make the stickers available to you upon your arrival (please bear in mind point number 6).
9. All attending families should take their own hand sanitiser to events and use it regularly, especially after using public facilities.

WILLIAMS SYNDROME FOUNDATION LIMITED

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Additional Guidance for indoor events

1. Unless exempt by age, medical condition or disability - face coverings should be worn at all times by all attendees, unless they are sat at a table eating or drinking.
2. Events will be organised to ensure that families can sit separately from other families.
3. Families who wish to be seated at tables with other member families that are within their own social networks should let the lead organiser / RC know for table planning purposes.
4. Where possible, venues with some outdoor space will favoured.
5. Where possible, venues with good ventilation (CO2 monitors / HEPA filters) will be favoured.
6. The duration of indoor events will be assessed alongside the venue ventilation / outdoor access.
7. Attendees should sanitise their hands prior to visiting any bar, drink/buffet tables and will visit as tables as directed by the lead organiser / RC.

The WSF Trustees reserve the right to cancel any WSF event with a minimum notice of 24hours if the national or regional risk of going ahead with the event is perceived as too great.

This guidance will be reviewed on a monthly basis (or at a shorter interval in response to new government advice or new data) and made available on the WSF Website, E-Newsletter and WSF social media channels.

All adult attendees should confirm that they have read this guidance via email to the lead organiser / RC at least 24 hours prior to the event taking place.

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