Deaf Umbrella – Covid 19 Statement

Deaf Umbrella is aware of the stresses and strains Covid 19 has placed on staff, customers and clients alike.  The impact upon the d/Deaf Community in particular has been profound.

We anticipate our staff, customers and clients will continue to exercise good judgment and caution in assessing their health ongoing.  If you, or anyone you are working with, is experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, has been in close contact with a known positive case, or contacted via the NHS Track and Trace system, please alert the D.U. office immediately so that all relative parties may be informed promptly.   If you are asked to self-isolate, please do not return to your place of work or educational establishment until your period of isolation has expired and/or you have returned a negative PCR or lateral flow test in line with current legal requirements and/or guidelines.

We recommend that staff take lateral flow tests twice weekly, which is also in line with current Government guidelines.

We actively encourage staff, customers and clients to be kind to themselves and to others during the Pandemic.  These are stressful times for us all.   We encourage our staff to acknowledge and discuss their concerns so that they can be supported in addressing them.  We hope that our staff can enable their clients and customers to have a smooth dialogue in this regard.

Deaf Umbrella recognises the potential impact of wearing PPE for the d/Deaf community and how this in turn impacts upon communication.  As the wearing of PPE is no longer compulsory, but often desirable in certain situations, we encourage staff, customers and clients to negotiate a workable solution in all situations going forward.