COVID Briefing Document for Schools

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Introduction

Van Gogh Alive has been created to allow safe movement of school groups through the experience. Once you have passed through ticketing, you will be free to move through the experience at your own pace – there is no linear format that you must follow with your group. The experience is contact-less and easily socially distanced. There are specific school slots for visiting the exhibition, there will be no public admissions at that time and numbers will be limited.

A New Way to Experience Art

Van Gogh's works have been displayed and enjoyed around the world for over a century – but never like this. Traditions of tiptoeing through unnerving and sometimes intimidating silent galleries and viewing paintings from afar are forgotten as visitors interact with art in ways they never imagined, in what has been described as "an unforgettable multi-sensory experience".

What is SENSORY4?

Developed by Grande Exhibitions, SENSORY4 is a unique system that combines multichannel motion graphics, cinema quality surround sound and up to forty high-definition projectors to provide one of the most exciting multiscreen environments in the world. SENSORY4 can transform any exhibition space to create a dynamic, informative and visually spectacular experience. Incredibly detailed images flow through the mass of projectors and merge with digital surround sound to saturate the space in a breath-taking immersive display.

To round off the complete sensory immersion, wonderful aromas that evoke a warmth from the French countryside all work in unison together with other senses to give the visitor an amplified outcome from their experience.

Van Gogh Alive and Birmingham Hippodrome

Birmingham Hippodrome has partnered with Green Room Sports Ltd to deliver Grande Exhibitions Van Gogh Alive across the Hippodrome site. The SENSORY4 Experience will see us transform our main auditorium into an exhibition space, extending the stage area into the auditorium to maximise available space for the immersive experience. In addition, we will also be using our foyer spaces for several installations that extend the experience further. These will include:

Interpretative Area – This will consist of a traditional gallery style walkthrough, introducing visitors to the life and work of Van Gogh through mounted text and images before entering the SENSORY4 exhibition space.

Van Gogh's Bedroom –a stylised representation of Van Gogh's bedroom on exiting the SENSORY4 space.

The Sunflower Room – a walk through experience consisting of a mirrored room with a ceiling of sunflowers.

Retail Area – an area designated for the sale of Van-Gogh related gifts and merchandise.

COVID Management

Birmingham Hippodrome is responsible for ensuring that Van Gogh Alive (VGA) is delivered in line with current guidance from Government and Public Health England regarding COVID-19. Operating procedures have been developed in line with and are referenced, but not limited to, the following documents:

Working safely during coronavirus (COVID-19) – Performing Arts
Working safely during coronavirus (COVID-19) – The Visitor Economy
New guidance for reopening of museums, galleries and the heritage sector
Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

COVID19 Secure Guidelines for Hospitality Businesses
UK Hospitality

Guidance for food businesses on coronavirus (COVID-19)
Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

Reopening and adapting your food business during COVID-19
Food Standards Agency

Keeping workers and customers safe during COVID-19 in restaurants, pubs, bars and takeaway services
Keeping workers and customers safe during COVID-19 in shops and branches
HM Government

Visitor access to VGA

During the exhibition access to the Hippodrome will be via advance ticket only. Tickets will be available for schools in advance of your visit.

Prior to your visit, you will be contacted via a 'Your Visit' email to ensure that you are provided with the most up-to-date information at that time.

Entry to the exhibition will be limited and monitored during allocated slots for schools. Your ticket will be checked on entry to the building and separately to the exhibition space using a contactless ticketing system, and bag searches which adhere to guidance will be in operation to ensure the safety of employees and customers.

People Flow

Travel routes through the venue will be strictly controlled. Where possible one-way routes have been identified to ensure social distancing can be easily maintained (as required for schools). Rope and pole style barriers and signage will be employed to ensure that traffic routes are clearly identified and easy to follow. Hippodrome employees will monitor the SENSORY4 exhibition space and throughout the venue, to ensure that correct social distancing is maintained.

Cleaning

Birmingham Hippodrome employs a contract cleaning service for the general and COVID specific cleaning of the Hippodrome site. The contractor has COVID specific RAMS and procedures for our site and works with the leadership team to amend cleaning regimes dynamically as required.

Additional COVID specific cleaning includes, but is not limited to:

- High frequency touch points such as doors and handrails
- Toilets (employees & visitor)
- Crew/Rest rooms
- Café area
- Art Activity Area
- Van Gogh Bedroom Selfie Station

In addition, Hippodrome exhibition employees will be given cleaning duties to undertake during normal opening hours and at the end of each day.

Shared Toilets

Birmingham Hippodrome will be putting specific measures into place with regards to our shared toilet facilities. These will include, but are not limited to:

- Using signs/posters to encourage correct handwashing technique
- Sanitiser stations on entry
- Blocking off urinals and sinks to allow for social distancing
- Blocking off toilet cubicles to ensure that queues do not form due to reduced sink capacity
- Displaying a visible cleaning schedule

Employees

We have implemented several measures to ensure that our employees can operate COVID safe. These include but are not limited to:

- COVID specific training and induction
- Staggered start, finish and break times
- Individual briefings and training specific to VGA
- PPE - Employees provided with washable face coverings and hand sanitiser
- COVID safe crew/rest rooms

Where social distancing cannot be maintained mitigation measures will include:

- Face Coverings -
  Visitors must wear face coverings within the venue unless eating or drinking. In a school context, this applies to year 6 and above. Employees must wear a face covering when in visitor areas. Those working face to face with visitors, may wear a face visor in addition to a face covering. Any employees who are exempt from wearing a face covering based on exemption criteria, will still be offered a visor.

- Screens -
  Physical barriers will be used where appropriate – this could include POS, café tables & ticket check (N-Scan) locations.

Track & Trace

Visitors contact details are recorded at point of ticket sale. Employees and contractors contact details will be recorded in our Access Control System. These details will be used where necessary for the NHS Track & Trace service.

Ventilation

Mechanical ventilation is carried out by a series of air handling units (AHUs) and extract fans. AHU plant that supplies fresh or re-circulated air is filtered at both inlet and extract points. AHUs are computer controlled to enable control of run times and set points.

In the visitor areas AHU run times will be extended in line with industry guidance.

Where possible, air handling plant will be configured to operate in 'full fresh air' mode to reduce the amount of re-circulated air

Confirmed COVID infection on site.

Visitors

Should a visitor present with COVID-19 symptoms whilst on site they will be isolated and treated as per our COVID Isolation policy.

Employees

Employees will be asked to stay away from work if they exhibit any symptoms of COVID-19.

In the instance of an employee presenting with symptoms whilst at work, our COVID isolation policy will be followed. The employee in question will be sent home and asked to contact NHS111. If COVID is confirmed, then the Hippodrome will contact the NHS Track & Trace scheme.

Where an employee is identified with a confirmed COVID infection, a deep clean if their working area, rest room and toilet facilities will be undertaken. Where the work area includes a part of the exhibition a deep clean will be carried out.

A confirmed infection will be reported under RIDDOR as 'a case of disease'.

Monitoring

Where a visitor or employee presents with COVID symptoms on site this will be recorded using our COVID Incident Reporting Procedure.

Reports will be reviewed regularly and where appropriate additional cleaning and/or closure will be implemented.

Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment for: "Van Gogh Alive - PUBLISHED "

This document was created in MY Compliance Management on 05/10/2020 10:39:30

BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

Risk Assessment for: Van Gogh Alive - PUBLISHED			
Start date	08/10/2020	**End date**	31/12/2021
Contact	David Reeve		
Phone	0121 689 3152		
Location	Birmingham Hippodrome Hurst St Southside B5 4TB		
Description	Public facing document - Generic risk assessment covering all aspects of Van Gogh Alive		

Required PPE

Face Mask - disposable face covering

Face Mask - washable face covering

Face Visor - sneeze/cough guard

Hand Sanitiser - 100ml personal issue

Sterilising Wipes

Guidance

Working safely during coronavirus (COVID-19) – Performing Arts

Working safely during coronavirus (COVID-19) – The Visitor Economy

New guidance for reopening of museums, galleries and the heritage sector

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

COVID19 Secure Guidelines for Hospitality Businesses - UK Hospitality

Guidance for food businesses on coronavirus (COVID-19) - Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

Reopening and adapting your food business during COVID-19 - Food Standards Agency

Keeping workers and customers safe during COVID-19 in restaurants, pubs, bars and takeaway services - HM Government

COVID-19: guidance for first responders - Public Health England

Covid-19: advice for first aiders - St Johns Ambulance

Air conditioning and ventilation during the coronavirus outbreak - HSE

COVID-19 Transmission From Register: 'COVID-19'

Hazard:	COVID-19 Transmission

Rating After Control Measures:	6
Risk Level	3 = High - Permanent Disability or Major Injury
Likelihood	2 - Unlikely

Description	COVID-19 Transmission/Infection whilst attending Van Gogh Alive exhibition. Visitors to Van Gogh Alive pass through a gallery type prelude before entering the SENSORY4 Immersive Experience on Level 1. The SENSORY4 experience lasts approximately 45 minutes where visitors are free to move about the space at will. Visitors then move through the venue with the option of taking a selfie in Van Gogh's bedroom (Level 1), travelling through a mirrored room that has a sunflower ceiling (Level 2) and the opportunity to buy Van Gogh themed merchandise in the gift shop (Level 2) on the way out. There is also limited opportunity to participate in a drawing workshop (Level 3).

	There is a themed cafe where visitors can purchase hot food and drink to consume at pre-booked tables.
Who is harmed and how	Van Gogh Alive Exhibition Visitors
Current Controls (COVID-19 Transmission)	Access Control: * Admission by pre-booked ticket only * Timed entry - capacity limited to 250/hr (125 per half hour slot) *Activation zones (Bedroom/Sunflower Rm) - staff controlled access Visitor Traffic Management: * Socially distanced queuing racks with floor markings - 2m spacing * One way systems implemented on all levels * One in - One out for storage rooms, cellars * Queueing systems where high visitor numbers expected - Activation zones Cafe *Way-finding signage detailing correct routes to follow *COVID mitigation instructions visitors must adhere to COVID Mitigation: *Regular communication with visitors and employees detailing COVID measures and individuals responsibilities *Updated polices and procedures cross referenced with COVID guidance *Face Coverings be worn in all visitor areas *Non-contact ticket checking (N-Scan) and bag searches *POS contactless payment only *Sanitiser stations deployed in key areas - Building entrance SENSORY4 entrance Activation zones Toilets *Addtional cleaning of high frequency touch points: POS Counters/Till screens/PDQs Doors and handles Handrails Tables & Chairs *Daily deep clean before opening *Staff clean down at end of day *Separate drop zones for FOH and BOH food deliveries/orders Employees: *COVID specific training (including eLearning) *Event specific training & daily briefings *Pre work symptom screening and clear isolation policy *PPE - individual hand sanitiser/face covering provided to all employees *VSA - face visors for those working face to face with visitors in addition to face covering *Separate welfare facilities for employees away from visitor areas *Crew/staff rooms socially distanced and enhanced cleaning *No on site catering for employees (Green Room kitchen closed)
Additional Controls (COVID-19 Transmission)	

CONTACT DETAILS

For further information please contact:

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