

Explorer Dome – General Risk Assessment

Covid-19 update - Explorer Dome is looking forward to a return to school visits as soon as it is safe and sensible for everyone involved. We are reviewing the situation regularly and keeping a keen eye on relevant guidance, e.g. [Implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings](#) and [Working safely during coronavirus](#). We will always follow official guidance from both Government and NHS to minimise the spread of Covid-19 and protect the welfare of our staff and our audiences.

We are currently taking bookings for future visits on a provisional basis and are happy to keep a date free for you with no obligation while the situation is unclear. We will discuss the booking with you nearer the time when we know what guidance is relevant and will ask for confirmation 3 weeks prior to the visit. We will offer you 3 options to allow us to work safely:

- **Live, on-line delivery** of science shows and workshops where travel and/or physical visits are not advisable
- **Non-dome shows:** if we can visit you, but you'd rather not be in the dome, then we already have a range of chemistry shows available and will have assembly-style, non-dome alternatives for all of our dome shows to allow for social distancing
- **Explorer Dome** has excellent air circulation, so we do not believe that being in the dome itself poses an increased risk for small groups that already work together. With suitable distancing between staff and visitors, a thorough clean of the dome between sessions and use of PPE where appropriate, we will be happy to bring our dome to you as normal (with a few tweaks for additional hygiene)

If you have any queries, please contact our team on 0117 914 1526 or information@explorerdome.co.uk

Hazard	Risk	Action	Risk Rating
Coronavirus / Covid-19	Risk of spreading infection within Explorer Dome team	<p>Explorer Dome presenters will practice enhanced hygiene measures, social distancing (where possible) and be vigilant to symptoms of covid-19 in themselves and other household members, self-isolating immediately when required to do so.</p> <p>Explorer Dome presenters will work in fixed team pairs, with the same equipment and in the same vehicles (where possible) and start and end of workday timings will be staggered to reduce contact between different presenting teams.</p> <p>Equipment and vehicle cabs will be wiped down with disinfectant at the start and end of each day.</p>	<p>Likelihood = 3 Severity = 3</p> <p>Risk Rating = 9 (Low)</p>

Risk Rating = Likelihood x Severity of Consequences

Likelihood (1 = most unlikely, 5 = most likely)

Severity (1 = trivial injuries, 5 = major injuries)

		<p>Hand sanitiser to be used regularly especially in vans and during shows where two presenters are operating the same equipment</p> <p>Rest stops during travel will be kept to a minimum and avoided where reasonable.</p>	
Coronavirus / Covid-19	Risk of spreading infection within an audience group	<p>Explorer Dome is inflated by a high-velocity floor fan which remains on throughout shows and provides excellent air circulation. We will position the fan near open doors/windows where possible to draw fresh air into the dome and raise the fan settings to increase airflow, especially between shows.</p> <p>Audiences will be asked to practice enhanced hygiene measures: hand washing before and after shows, avoid touching the dome and associated equipment.</p> <p>We will provide our larger dome where practical to allow for increased social distancing between audience members.</p>	<p>Likelihood = 3</p> <p>Severity = 3</p> <p>Risk Rating = 9 (Low)</p>
Coronavirus / Covid-19	Risk of spreading infection between presenters and audience members or between different audience groups	<p>Schools will be given the option to have their sessions delivered online where a physical visit is considered inappropriate under current guidelines.</p> <p>Shows which would normally take place in the dome will be adapted so that a similar session can take place outside the dome to allow for greater social distancing and less physical contact with surfaces.</p> <p>Venues considered suitable for Explorer Dome should have minimal footfall to reduce contact between groups using the same space for other activities</p> <p>When arriving at a venue, presenters may wear appropriate PPE (e.g. disposable gloves and face covering) when opening/closing doors, greeting hosts, signing in and moving equipment into the venue. Presenters will wash their work clothes more frequently and between different venues.</p> <p>When shows in the dome do take place, presenters will position themselves and the audience to maximise social distancing, especially between presenter and audience, taking into account local airflow patterns within the dome.</p> <p>Surfaces that are touched will be thoroughly disinfected between shows, e.g. tunnel entrance & interior/exterior floor where audience sit.</p>	<p>Likelihood = 3</p> <p>Severity = 3</p> <p>Risk Rating = 9 (Low)</p>

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		<p>Hands-on demonstrations/activities will be adapted as appropriate or alternative activities provided, taking into consideration specific risk factors.</p> <p>Schedules will be adapted to allow for thorough cleaning of dome and equipment, and appropriate ventilation of venue between shows.</p>	
The presenters and most members of the audience enter and exit the dome by crawling through a tunnel.	There is a minor trip hazard at the mouth of the tunnel.	<p>The presenters must crawl on hands and knees to prevent tripping. The presenters raise awareness of the trip hazard with everyone going in and going out and ask everyone to crawl on hands and knees through the tunnel and crawl until well clear of the tunnel on exit.</p> <p>A presenter is present at the mouth of the tunnel during entry and exit whenever possible. If a presenter is not available, an adult will be instructed how to aid entrance and exit avoiding trips.</p> <p>Where gym mats are available these can be laid out at the mouth of the tunnel and inside the dome to soften the floor as an extra precaution. Explorer Dome vehicles are equipped with 2 of these mats to ensure that this crash mat can be in place.</p>	<p>Likelihood = 3</p> <p>Severity = 1</p> <p>Risk Rating = 3 (Low)</p>
Fire or accidents and emergency evacuation.	Small risk that fire could start inside the dome through accident or deliberate action. The audience needs to be evacuated from the dome and it takes a few minutes for a full audience to leave the dome via the tunnel.	<p>Presenters are trained in the proper procedure during fire or for an emergency evacuation.</p> <p>The dome material is not flammable but fire extinguishers are to hand inside the dome in case of emergency.</p> <p>In the event of an emergency, presenters ask the audience to remain calm and carefully move towards the centre of the dome and off the silver material of the dome sides.</p> <p>The dome has no floor, and both presenters can flip the dome over the heads of the audience and equipment.</p> <p>Exit is then immediate.</p> <p>Explorer Dome presenters should be the last to leave the dome and ensure that electrical equipment is switched off.</p>	<p>Likelihood = 1</p> <p>Severity = 3</p> <p>Risk Rating = 3 (Low)</p>
Unpredictable behaviour due to special educational or medical needs of the audience, claustrophobia etc. may result in members of the audience becoming unable or unwilling to continue.	Risk of unpredictable behaviour. The audience may need to be evacuated from the dome and it takes a few minutes for a full audience to leave the dome via the tunnel	<p>Show can be stopped at any time and individual members can be moved or exit down the tunnel with the help of the presenters.</p> <p>If audience needs to leave quickly, presenters are trained in the proper procedure for an emergency evacuation (see below).</p>	<p>Likelihood = 3</p> <p>Severity = 1</p> <p>Risk Rating = 3 (Low)</p>

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Power cut	The majority of lights inside the dome and the dome fan itself run on electric supply from the mains. If there is a power cut the inflated dome will be pitch black and will start to deflate.	Presenters are trained in the proper procedure during power cut. 2 torches are always available in event of a black-out and presenters can calm down any worried or over-excited children. The dome takes a long time to deflate and the audience can leave the dome using the emergency evacuation procedure with no need for a rush.	Likelihood = 2 Severity = 1 Risk Rating = 2 (Minimal)
Low level lighting inside the dome.	Risk that darkness may cause audience members to become nervous. Risk that darkness may result in boisterous behaviour.	Two presenters inside dome maintain awareness of audience and their reactions at all times. At least one teacher or adult who knows the children is always asked to be present at all times during presentations. Lights can be brought up at any time and children can move to sit closer to teachers or where they feel safe. Extra lights are available for nervous children and lights are kept on if children are over-excited, boisterous or frightened in the dark. Members of the audience can leave the dome at any time if necessary.	Likelihood = 4 Severity = 1 Risk Rating = 4 (Low)
Walking around the darkened dome during the presentations.	Trip hazard due to audience and equipment.	Once seated only selected volunteers and presenters move around the dome during the show. Presenters ensure that movement of volunteers is directed and there is enough space and time for them to move safely. At the start of the show and through-out the show if necessary, the audience is asked to keep the relevant spaces and walkways clear. Presenters ensure that the dome is not over-crowded If audience members need to enter or leave the dome, lights may need to be brought up and a presenter must assist the entrance or exit.	Likelihood = 3 Severity = 1 Risk Rating = 3 (Low)
Hands-on demonstrations using volunteers.	Demonstration risks are assessed separately – see attached sheets if appropriate		

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Likelihood of Occurrence	Severity of Consequences				
	1. Minor Injuries [No lost time]	2. Significant Injury [up to 7 Days]	3. Serious Injury [7 Day Injury]	4. Major Injury	5. Fatality
1. Very unlikely [hasn't occurred before]	1	2	3	4	5
2 - Slight [rarely occurs]	2	4	6	8	10
3 - Feasible [possible, but not common]	3	6	9	12	15
4 - Likely [has before, will again]	4	8	12	16	20
5 - Very Likely [occurs frequently]	5	10	15	20	25
Risk Rating: Likelihood * Severity	Minimal 1-2	Low 3-9	Medium 10-15	High 16-20	Extreme 25

Score 1-3 Minimal Risk - Maintain Existing Measures
 Score 3-9 Low Risk - Review Existing Measures
 Score 10-15 Medium Risk - Improve Control Measures
 Score 16-20 High Risk - Consider Stopping Activity
 Score 25 Extreme Risk - Do Not Proceed

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