



Adult Disability Day Services and COVID-19 What's Happening?



June 2020

Over 18,000 adults are receiving Adult Disability Day Service Supports from 91 Service Providers. There are over 1,200 School Leavers who will require day service supports from September 2020.

Supports in Day Service Locations were closed in March under public health COVID-19 guidance.

Some supports continue to be provided in a number of ways, for example by telephone, online communication and responses to address emergency needs.

A National group representative of service users and families, Service Providers and HSE are working together to prepare for the resumption of day service supports in line with COVID-19 guidance.

This National group are looking at all the COVID-19 guidance to see how Day Services can be provided during COVID.

The safety of service users and staff is of critical importance therefore the attendance at locations will be determined by public health guidance, which may result in some reduction of capacity.

The Next Steps:

- ☀ Social distancing means that fewer people can be in a location at any one time. Services will have to be delivered in a different way with less attendance at a day service location.**
- ☀ Service Providers have begun to develop plans for the resumption of services. The providers are looking at how to provide day services whilst minimising the risk to service users and staff.**
- ☀ The HSE Community Healthcare Organisations will ensure Service Provider plans are strong and adhere to public health guidance.**
- ☀ Service Providers will make contact with day service users and they will talk about how to provide supports to each person.**
- ☀ HSE and Service Providers where identified, will continue to communicate with school leavers and their families to plan and organise for September.**
- ☀ Staff and Service User training will be made available.**

It is expected that a clearer picture will emerge before end of June as to when day services are likely to be reinstated and how the service will be delivered taking account of Public Health Guidance and COVID-19 restrictions.

**Service Provision during COVID-19 National Public Health Guidance
Maintain Social Distancing • Hand Hygiene • Cough Etiquette • Personal
Protection Equipment**

**For further information about Adult Day Service New Directions please go to
www.hse.ie/newdirections**