

Coronavirus at work

Dealing with covid-19 as a workplace issue

Understanding the issue

- What is coronavirus?
- What is a 'pandemic'?
- How does it spread?
- Who should be in isolation?
- How is it treated?



Hygiene

- Washing hands
- Cleaning surfaces
- Deep cleans
- Glasses and smart phones

CATCH IT



Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.

BIN IT



Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.

KILL IT



Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.

UNIONISE



Paid sick leave stops disease from spreading in your workplace. Join your union today.





Self-isolation

- Waiting for a COVID-19 test result
- Identified as being a close contact of someone with coronavirus
- Returning from travel in certain locations.



Statutory sick pay

To qualify for Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) you must:

- be classed as an employee
- have been ill for at least 1 day (temporary measure for COVID-19).
- earn an average of at least £118 per week.

The SSP payment is currently £94.25 per week.

However, you will not qualify if you:

- have already received the maximum amount of SSP, which is 28 weeks
- are already in receipt of Statutory Maternity Pay.



Personal Protective Equipment

Public-facing workers

Risk Assessment: COSHH Regulations

Health workers

- Use of long-sleeved disposable fluid-repellent gown
- Disposable gloves with long tight-fitting cuffs
- Eye protection
- Refrain from touching mouth, eyes or nose with potentially contaminated gloves





What employers should do

- Draw up COVID-19 policies, including unions
- Pay workers full pay for time off sick or in isolation
- Provide relevant and necessary PPE
- Provision of hand sanitisers and high levels of cleanliness
- Cancellation of any requests for workers to travel for work
- Provision of ongoing information and advice



Our demands

TUC demands to the government and employers:

- SSP to be paid at Living Wage
- SSP for all workers
- Ditch the 5-week wait for Universal Credit
- Urgent government taskforce
- Full pay for workers affected by school closures
- Govt intervention to protect at-risk jobs and industries



Actions to take to help protect workers

- 1. Join a union. Unionise the workplace.
- Agree a policy for dealing with COVID-19.
- Demand full pay for all workers.
- 4. Support for agency/contract workers
- 5. Consult union legal teams.

- 6. Relevant, correct information to the workplace.
- 7. Ensure relevant PPE provision.
- 8. Solidarity support to retired members branches.
- Consult union members on further actions.
- 10. Sign the petition: #SickPayforAll





Changing the world of work for good