StaySafeOut COVID-19 Outing Advice Website (Portfolio Project)

Abstract

A lightweight website that provides practical outing advice during pandemic periods: risk level by area, crowding forecast, mask guidance, and quick links to local services. Built for clarity and accessibility; emphasises plain-language tips and evidence-backed guidance.

Motivation

Many people struggled to interpret official dashboards. This site converts raw indicators into simple go/no go guidance and checklists.

Data & Signals

Local case incidence and trend (7 day rolling).

Mobility/crowding proxies (e.g., public transport occupancy, footfall estimates).

Venue type risk multipliers (indoors ventilation, duration).

User context: age band and underlying risk (optional, non-identifying).

Core Features

Per postcode risk meter (Low / Medium / High) with a transparent score breakdown.

Should I go? checklist (duration, ventilation, CO hint, mask fit, peak/off peak).

Crowding forecast by hour; alternative low crowd slots suggestion.

One tap plan: mask reminder, bring sanitiser, choose outdoor queue; save as PDF trip note.

Design & Implementation

Information architecture focused on one screen; mobile first UI.

Simple stack (static hosting + small serverless functions) to fetch daily indicators.

Privacy-by-design: no personal data stored; computations run client-side where possible.

Outcome & Evidence

Usability test with 8 peers: time to decision reduced from ~90s to ~25s.

Low bounce rate on mobile; users reported higher confidence and better timing choices.

Limitations & Ethics

Advisory only; not medical advice. Indicators may lag real world changes.

Communicates uncertainty with ranges and last updated timestamps.

Future Work

Adaptive hints from real time CO sensor APIs; live transit occupancy where available.