

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) POLICY

Statement of intent

Our setting will work with children, parents and the community in playing a part in the containment of Coronavirus (Covid-19). This policy applies to all employees, parents, children, volunteers, students, and anyone else working on behalf of the preschool.

Aim

- To protect all children, parents, employees and their families (and other users of the premises) from being infected with Coronavirus (Covid-19).
- To maintain the minimum level of staff to continue to provide the welfare needs of all children in our care.
- To prevent the spread of Coronavirus (Covid-19).

Symptoms can include, but are not limited to:-

- a continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)
- headache
- sickness
- diarrhoea

For a fuller list, please visit the NHS website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/main-symptoms/>

The Preschool will ensure hygiene and self-distancing practice is in place and followed by staff, parents and other premises users where practicably possible. All staff and parents are to be informed of the procedure in maintaining social distancing and the practices which are in place to ensure good hygiene.

Response to possible infection case

In the event of a child or adult showing any one of the above symptoms of Covid-19 or those noted on the NHS website, the preschool will follow the necessary precautions set out in our Emergency Plan relating to an Infectious Disease.

The preschool staff will wear necessary PPE to contain the risk of infection while looking after the child. A child awaiting collection will be moved, if possible and appropriate, into another room, while waiting for a family member to collect. If this is not possible then the child must be kept at least 2 metres away from other people with a window opened for ventilation.

The preschool will ask the parents to organise a test and the preschool will require the results of the appointment before the child returns.

If an employee experiences any of the Covid-19 symptoms, they will inform the manager immediately and arrange to take a test.

Neither child nor employee will return until they have either a negative result or at least 5 days following a positive result and no symptoms.

Parents will be informed if an active staff member or a child in setting receives a positive test. The preschool will call NHS 111 or 999 should a child or staff member show signs of life threatening or serious illness.

Preventing the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The preschool will take necessary measures set out in our Emergency Plan, based on *Emergency Planning and Response for Education, Childcare and children's social care settings (Aug 2022)*

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1100625/DfE_Emergency_Guidance.pdf

- Employees are required to practice good hygiene and cleanliness standards.
- Regularly hand washing for staff and children, with soap and water for at least 20 seconds on arriving in preschool and at regular times during the day.
- Regular use of hand sanitizer for staff.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces throughout the day.
- All are advised to cover mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing with either a bent elbow or tissue and wash hands afterwards.
- Staff to avoid contact with others, such as handshakes and maintain social distance as much as possible.
- Avoid touching eyes nose and mouth.
- Thorough cleaning will take place every evening after the preschool day.