

Covid-19 Policy.

COVID-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways. It's caused by a virus called coronavirus.

Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a persistent dry cough, a high temperature and loss of taste and/or smell.

Strict Social distancing rules and good Hygiene practices as set out by the government are essential in preventing the spread of the virus.

Social distancing is the responsibility of all staff, parents/carers both inside and outside of nursery.

Parents/carers and staff are must maintain social distancing in the wider community in order to help prevent bringing the virus into our setting.

The Nursery Manager retains the right of refusal of all children, parents, staff and visitors who are deemed contagious and may impact on the welfare of the rest of the nursery.

The nursery manager holds the right to change opening hours and numbers of children or close nursery according to staffing numbers to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone.

Our policy for Covid-19:

Is to maintain social distancing where possible and appropriate

To ensure all children and staff follow good hygiene routines

Promote positive well being and understanding for all staff and children

Support all families and children by communicating regularly

Follow strict policy as per the governments guidance when children/and or families and staff show symptoms of Covid-19 to prevent further spread

Protect staff and their families as much as possible from the risk of catching Covid-19

The nursery manager retains the right of refusal of all children, parents, staff and visitors who are deemed contagious and may impact on the welfare of the rest of the nursery

Our procedures for Covid-19:

We support this by:

Our procedures for Infection Control:

We follow the guidance below to prevent a virus or infection from spreading around the nursery. Our staff:

- Encourage all children to use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch germs
- Ensure all tissues are disposed of in a hygienic way and all children and staff wash their hands once the tissue is disposed of
- Develop children's understanding of the above and the need for good hygiene procedures in helping them to stay healthy
- Wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when changing nappies, toileting children and dealing with any other bodily fluids. Staff are requested to dispose of these in the appropriate manner and wash hands immediately
- Clean and sterilise all potties and changing mats before and after each use
- On arrival and collection children hand overs will take place at the internal nursery entrance. Families are asked to be respectful of each other at busy times and give each other space when entering/exiting nursery.
- Within the setting the doors to the outside area will be open all day and children will be actively encouraged to use the outside area to support social distancing naturally.
- Toys/resources will be rotated and regularly cleaned/sterilised to help control the spread of infection.
- Toys from home unless pre-arranged with staff will not be permitted.
- Store dummies in individual hygienic dummy boxes labelled with the child's name to prevent cross-contamination with other children.
- Immediately clean and sterilise (where necessary) any dummy or bottle that falls on the floor or is picked up by another child
- Bedding will be used on a single use basis and washed on a 60-degree wash every day.
- The nursery will ensure stocks of tissues, hand washing equipment, cleaning materials and sterilising fluid are always maintained and increased during the winter months or when flu and cold germs are circulating.
- PPE will be provided for staff to wear at critical times i.e nappy changing, preparing/handling food.
- Staff will follow a strict rota for cleaning and sterilising resources throughout the day. i.e clean surfaces that children and young people are touching, such as toys, books, desks, chairs, doors, sinks, toilets, light switches, bannisters, more regularly than normal
- All staff and children will frequently wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and dry thoroughly.
- children will be encouraged not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose and use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste ('catch it, bin it, kill it')
- ensure that help is available for children and young people who have trouble cleaning their hands independently
- consider how to encourage young children to learn and practise these habits

through games, songs and repetition

- ensure that bins for tissues are emptied throughout the day
- stagger the use of staff rooms and offices to limit occupancy
- Sterilizing water bottles daily

Wellbeing:

At this time, we anticipate that children may be anxious and unsettled during this period.

The wellbeing of all children in the setting is our priority. Where possible we will endeavor to continue to follow the EYFS Curriculum however our main focus will be the prime areas including, personal, social and Emotional development and communication and language.

Visitors:

- In line with latest government advice. Visitors will be allowed into setting, however they are asked to follow our standard sickness procedures and avoid coming into nursery if they are unwell or presenting with any of the Covid-19 symptoms.

Travelling:

- As per our standard procedure school runs will be done on foot via a walking bus. Staff will continue to take children on local outings on foot using, prams/buggies and a walking bus.

Symptoms, quarantine, and testing:

- Self Isolation is no-longer mandatory however we ask all parents to consider our normal sickness policy and avoid bringing children to nursery if they test positive for Covid-19 or present with Covid-19 symptoms.
- If symptom's present whilst at nursery parents will be contacted to collect their child immediately and the child will be moved to a safe place maintaining social distance until collected.
- Where children and/or staff present with symptoms a COVID-we ask that do Covid-19 test if possible and do not come back to nursery until they are better or have a negative test.
- If more than two children is test positive at the same time, the nursery manager holds the right to close the nursery for the period of the 10 days isolation to prevent further spread, under the guidance and support of the local authority and the DFE.

Low Staffing and Nursery Closure:

- In the event that staff have to self-isolate and we are unable to cover those members of staff bringing us under the EYFS Ratio's of adults to children, the

nursery manager reserves the right to temporarily reduce the number of children that can attend at short notice.

Should this occur then nursery will follow a priority system for children attending nursery:

- Working parents
- Vulnerable children and/or those with SEND
- All other children.

Links for further information:

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance and support - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-and-support)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)