

**Covid19 Policy**

The aim of this policy is to put measures in place to minimise the spread of the coronavirus and to protect staff and children at the preschool. If you, your child or another member of your household has symptoms of coronavirus, please stay at home.

**Main Symptoms of Coronavirus**

New continuous cough- this means coughing a lot, more than 3 or more times in a day.

A temperature- this is of 37.8 or above.

**Arrivals /Departures**

* Please do not bring in your child if they are showing signs that they are unwell.
* Please sign your child in/out using the sheet and hand sanitiser. We also ask that parents wear masks at pick up and drop off and maintain a 2 metre distance from other parents.
* All children to be dropped off/collected from the door at your allocated drop off/collection time. At the current time we are unable to allow adults into the building.
* Children will be assisted to wash their hands on arrival and departure, as well as regularly throughout the day.

**Children’s bags and belongings**

* Please bring in a bag for your child with spare clothes, wipes and nappies if needed that can be used for the whole week.
* Please **do not** allow your child to bring in toys from home into the preschool.

**What to do if your child or someone in your household is displaying symptoms of coronavirus.**

If your child or someone in your household has a temperature or a new continuous cough please stay at home and self isolate. You and your family will be able to request a test for coronavirus. Self isolate until you get the results of your test. If the test is negative then your child can return back to preschool as long as they are feeling okay in their self. If the result is positive you and your family must stay self-isolating for at least 10 days.

**What will happen if a child shows signs of coronavirus whilst at preschool.**

Parents will be called to collect the child. A member of staff that will have to wear PPE at this point will separate with that child until the parents are able to collect. All rooms and resources will be cleaned thoroughly. The child and family will need to get tested and self-isolating while waiting the results. If one of the child’s household gets a positive result the person with the positive result must self-isolating for 7 days and the rest of the household must self-isolate for 10 days. We will have to close the preschool for 10 days for everyone to isolate if the child has a positive result.

**Closure of setting**

* The setting will have to close for 10 days if a member of staff or a child attending has a positive test result of coronavirus.

**Play and Learning**

Young children are not expected to social distance or wear masks. They should feel safe and secure at the preschool. We will have smaller groups of children and limited resources that are easy to clean. As per the guidance we will have very limited shared play so messy and water play will be made available for separate children’s access and that messy play will be used just for that child. As a setting we have made the decision not to use sand for the time being.

Staff will wear PPE when changing children’s nappies and taking children to the toilet.

Snack will be served as a group snack so that areas can be kept clean and levels of risk can be minimal.

**Outings**

At the moment we will not being doing any outdoor learning, trips to the park or walks from the preschool during this time. We will regularly risk assess this and take our guidance and advice from the Government and Hertfordshire County Council’s regular updates. We will have an area of the room set up for physical play and make sure the children have plenty of opportunities for music and movement during sessions.

**Attending other settings**

At this moment in time we will be unable to accept children who attend two settings as this causes the level of risk to staff and children to rise slightly. This is because the government guidelines is to keep children in small groups and ideally the same and not mixing groups.

**Visitors to the setting**

At the current time we are unable to have outside visitors, unless there is a safeguarding issue to the setting as we have limited space and are unable to social distance safely inside. We are in regular contact with outside agencies and will continue to have any meetings or updates with professionals via Zoom or Microsoft Teams.

**This policy will be reviewed regularly and updated as and when needed by the government guidelines.**

**Moderated by:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**To be reviewed on:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**