



Covid - 19 Management Policy

The symptoms of COVID-19 and other respiratory infections are very similar. It is not possible to tell if a child has COVID-19, flu or another respiratory infection based on symptoms alone.

When to stay at home

- Children and Staff members with a high temperature; symptoms of a respiratory infection or who do not feel well enough to carry out normal activities are required to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they no longer have a high temperature or until they no longer feel unwell. They can return to the nursery and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend. It is advisable to seek medical attention if symptoms persist.
- Children and staff with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend nursery.
- All children and staff with respiratory symptoms are encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing and to wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.

Testing for Covid 19

- It is not mandatory that children and staff are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to do so by a health professional.
- If a child has a positive COVID-19 test result, they should stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. If a staff member has a positive COVID-19 test result, they

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Policy updated regularly in line with changes and updates in legislation.

should stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days after the day they took the test.

- Children and staff members who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result can continue to attend nursery as normal.

Face Covering

We recommend that parents and visitors continue to wear face covering when inside the building. Viruses spread easily when an infected person talks, coughs or sneezes. Staff absence poses difficulties in service continuity. Thus, we kindly request your cooperation and support in our bid to maintain uninterrupted staff coverage and limit the impact of Covid-19 on children and staff members. Children and staff members are not required to wear a face covering.

Early Years Foundation Stage

- The nursery will continue to meet the existing learning and development requirements. We expect to continue to maintain existing staff qualification and ratios.
- In the event that staff members are absent in relation to Covid-19, we will take appropriate measures to ensure that all statutory requirements are met, such as using agency staff where required or merging class groups to ensure safe levels of supervision.
- Parents will be informed of changes in staffing within their child's group, including arrangements made for temporary staff cover.
- All staff members within all groups have undergone training in Paediatric First Aid, Food Hygiene and Infection Control and all other safeguarding measures will continue within the setting.

Child suspected of Covid-19 symptoms at nursery

- Contact the child's parents to collect the child as soon as possible.
- Close contact with other children will be reduced as much as possible while waiting for the child to be collected.
- The designated staff member caring for the child must ensure appropriate PPE is worn (facemask, disposable gloves and apron)

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- All areas of the classroom the child has been in contact with must be cleaned and disinfected. Vacuum cleaner must not be used.
- After cleaning, hands should be washed with soap and water for 20s after all PPE have been removed and disposed.

Protective measures

- 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
- Clean toilets regularly and ensure good personal hygiene throughout the day
- Remind children to wash their hands before eating, after visiting the toilet, playing outside or being in contact with any animal and explain the reasons for this
- Clean all toys, equipment and resources on a regular basis by following a comprehensive cleaning rota and using antibacterial cleansers where appropriate
- Wash or clean all equipment used by babies and toddlers as and when needed, including when the children have placed it in their mouth
- Store dummies in individual hygienic dummy boxes labelled with the child's name to prevent cross-contamination with other children
- Store toothbrushes (where applicable) hygienically to prevent cross-contamination
- Immediately clean and sterilise (where necessary) any dummy or bottle that falls on the floor or is picked up by another child
- Provide labelled individual bedding for children that is not used by any other child and wash this at least once a week
- Where applicable wear specific indoor shoes or slippers whilst inside the rooms and make sure that children wear them as well
- Follow this illness policy when children are ill to prevent the spread of any infection in the nursery. Staff are also requested to stay at home if they are contagious.

- We encourage all families to continue to implement good hygiene routines at home with their children – including the 20 seconds handwashing regiment with soap and water. Coughing and sneezing should be into sleeves or tissue (catch it, bin it, kill it) and then wash hands.

[Exclusion table - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

**Links to the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage
Section 3 – The safeguarding and welfare requirements 2021:**

- The Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements:
- Health: Medicines
- Information and Records
- Suitable premises, environment and equipment
- Suitable people
- Documentation