

Covid-19 Policy.

COVID-19 is an 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. Symptoms of the new strain of Covid 19 include sore throat, congestion or runny nose, fever or child, headache and/or fatigue, nausea and/or diarrhoea.

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:

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

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

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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. Where more than one family arrives at a time, families are expected to wait outside.
- Within the setting children will be encouraged to use the outdoor area throughout the day to aid with
- Toys/resources are rotated and sterilised regularly throughout the week. Soft furnishings will be washed on a hot wash regularly.
- Toys from home unless pre-arranged with staff are not 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 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 are 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
- Sterilizing water bottles daily

Wellbeing:

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:

- Visitors are asked to follow good hygiene routines in line with the nursery policy. If a visitor suspects they may have Covid-19 they will be asked not to attend.

Symptoms, quarantine, and testing:

- There are no longer any strict rules on quarantine and testing. However as per our Hygiene and infection control policy any child or staff member who has a high temperature and/or is unwell in themselves we ask that they do not attend nursery until they are fully better.

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:

[COVID-19: guidance and support - GOV.UK](#)