



Covid-19 Policy

Statement

Covid-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways. It is caused by a virus called Coronavirus. Symptoms can be mild, moderate, severe or fatal. This policy is to limit the spread of the virus within the setting.

Who is at risk?

All patrons of the setting are at risk including: staff, children, parents /carers of the children attending, any other individuals involved in the day to day operation of the setting. Some groups of people are more vulnerable to the virus and these include the elderly, pregnant women and those with existing underlying health conditions.

What controls are required to limit the spread of the virus?

The following controls will be in place at all times:

1. Handwashing

- All staff and children will be required to wash their hands immediately upon entry to the setting and before leaving.
- Hand washing facilities will be available at all times with soap and water in place.
- Paper towels will be used to dry hands and these will be placed in a lidded bin.
- The lidded bin will be emptied safely at least every hour.
- Hand sanitisers will be available in any areas where there are no immediate handwashing facilities for example in the garden.
- Staff and children will wash their hands on a regular basis for a period of 20 seconds with soap and water and reminded of the importance of drying hands properly with the disposable towels. Children will be supervised at all times when hand washing to ensure that they do so properly.
- All children will be reminded to catch coughs and sneezes in a tissue which will be disposed of immediately in a lidded bin. The contents of the lidded bin will be disposed of at least every hour. Follow Catch it, Bin it, Kill it to avoid touching the face , eyes, nose or mouth with unclean hands. Tissues are made available throughout the setting.
- Staff to report any problems and carry out skin checks as part of skin surveillance programme. Emollient creams will be available within the setting to protect hands from increased washing.

2. Cleaning

Frequent cleaning and disinfecting of objects and surfaces that are touched regularly particularly in areas of high use such as door handles, light switches, furniture, and toys. The areas will be cleaned extensively using appropriate cleaning products and methods. Rigorous checks will be carried out by the manager to ensure that the procedures are always being fully adhered to. Bedding will be washed after single use.



3. Social Distancing

The recommended distance for safe distancing is 2 metres however this is difficult to maintain in a setting such as a nursery. The following changes will be made to the running of each session:

- Parents /carers will not be permitted to enter the setting. Their child/children must be dropped off at the door.
- All children's bags to remain at nursery and will not be taken home each day. Where possible children will be discouraged to bring their bag to nursery.
- No toys are to be brought in from home.
- Parents will be asked to practice safe distancing of 2 metres whilst waiting to drop off their children. We appreciate that this will increase the time waiting to enter the nursery therefore please stagger getting out of your car to avoid long queues.
- Staggered drop off's and pick-ups will have to be adhered to.
- Group sizes will reflect the number of staff available to ensure that groups are kept as small as possible.
- All resources will be cleaned and disinfected immediately after use.
- Outdoor play will be encouraged as much as possible.
- Any sleeping children will be placed two metres apart.

4. Sickness

- If anyone becomes unwell with a continuous new cough or a high temperature they will be isolated and sent home to follow the stay at home guidelines.
- Children and staff with any signs of illness should not attend nursery.

5. Staff

- Staff will be asked to dress into their uniform at nursery before they start their shift. Uniform will not be taken home and will be washed at nursery.
- Staff using public transport to arrive to nursery will be provided with face masks to wear.
- It is staff members responsibility to minimise their own risks and to take responsibility of their own health and safety.