

COVID-19 Management Strategy 19 July 2021

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed	Controls Required	Additional Controls	Action by who?	Action by when?
Spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff • Parents • Children • Visitors to your premises 	<p><u>Actions for early years and childcare providers during the Covid 19 pandemic applies until Step 4</u></p> <p>Refer to guidance: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/actions-for-early-years-and-childcare-providers-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic</p> <p>Attendance: Children, staff and other adults must not attend the setting if they have one or more covid symptoms.</p> <p>1. Minimise contact with individuals who are required to self- isolate by ensuring they do not attend the setting.</p> <p>When an individual needs to self-isolate Children, staff and other adults must not come into the setting if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they have one or more COVID-19 symptoms 	<p>As the pandemic in our area is currently high as of the 19/07/21, we will continue within the current guidelines and monitor the relaxation in line with post Stage 4 when safe to do so – weekly reviews.</p> <p>Duel setting childcare can recommence as from September.</p> <p>Follow as updated guidance- Actions for early years and childcare providers during the Covid 19 Pandemic</p>	<p>Owner Manager Snr Management Team</p>	<p>From 19/07/21</p> <p>01/09/21</p> <p>From April 2020</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• a member of their household (including someone in their support bubble or childcare bubble if they have one) has COVID-19 symptoms or have tested positive• they are legally required to quarantine, having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area• they have had a positive test• they have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19 <p>They must not attend with immediate effect and for at least 10 full days from the day after:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the start of their symptoms• the test date, if they did not have any symptoms but had a positive rapid lateral flow device test or polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test (if a rapid lateral flow test is taken first, and a PCR test is then taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the rapid lateral flow test and they can return to the setting).			
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		<p>You must follow this process and ensure everyone onsite, or visiting, is aware of it.</p> <p>When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms at the setting</p> <p>If anyone in your setting develops one or more COVID-19 symptoms - you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must send them home to begin isolation – the isolation period includes the day the symptoms started and the next 10 full days • advise them to follow the stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection • advise them to arrange to have a test to see if they have COVID-19 <p>Other members of their household (including any siblings and members of their support or childcare bubble if they have one) should self-isolate. Their isolation period includes the day symptoms started for the first person in their household, or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms, whether this was a rapid lateral flow test or PCR test, and the next 10 full days. If a member of the household starts to display symptoms while self-isolating, they will need to restart the 10-day isolation period and book a test.</p>		<p>Drop/Collecti on outside - This is to remain following consultation with staff and parents.</p>	<p>Review regularly</p> <p>Review as pandemic subsides and after 19/07/21</p>
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		<p>If anyone tests positive whilst not experiencing symptoms but develop symptoms during the isolation period, they must restart the 10-day isolation period from the day they developed symptoms.</p> <p>If a child is awaiting collection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• they should be moved, if possible, to our soft play room where they can be self-isolated behind a closed door with appropriate adult supervision if required• a window should be opened for fresh air, if it is safe to do so• if it is not possible to self-isolate them, move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people• if they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate bathroom if possible – the bathroom must be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else• personal protective equipment (PPE) must be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained			
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		<p>(such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs) – more information on PPE use can be found in the safe working in education, childcare and children’s social care</p> <p>In an emergency, call 999 if someone is seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk.</p> <p>Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms should not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital, unless advised to.</p> <p>The individual should not use public transport if they are symptomatic. If arranging their return to their family home to self-isolate, settings should follow advice on transport arrangements in the safe working in education, childcare and children’s social care settings, including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE).</p> <p>PHE has advised that routinely taking the temperature of children is not recommended as this is an unreliable method for identifying COVID-19.</p> <p>Further action to take when someone tests positive in the setting can be found in Manage and report confirmed cases of COVID-19 amongst the setting community.</p>			
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		<p>When an individual has had close contact with someone with COVID- 19 symptoms</p> <p>Any member of staff who has provided close contact care to someone with symptoms, regardless of whether they are wearing PPE, and all other members of staff or children who have been in close contact with that person, do not need to go home to self-isolate unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the symptomatic person subsequently tests positive• they develop symptoms themselves (in which case, they should self-isolate immediately and arrange to have a test)• they are requested to do so by NHS Test and Trace or the Public Health England (PHE) advice service (or PHE local health protection team if escalated), which is a legal obligation• they have tested positive with a rapid lateral flow test as part of a community or worker programme <p>Everyone must wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with soap and running water or use hand sanitiser after any contact with someone who is unwell. The area around the person with symptoms must be cleaned after they have left, to reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people. See COVID-</p>			
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		<p>19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings outside the home.</p> <p>If you are contacted by NHS Test and Trace or your local health protection team and told to self-isolate because you have been a close contact of a positive case, you have a legal obligation to do so.</p> <p>Procedure if we have to close a room or setting:</p> <p>If a child or member of staff tests positive for Covid, they will need to isolate with immediate effect together with those who have been in close contact with them up to 48hrs previously.</p> <p>Hand Washing Hand washing facilities with soap and hot water in place. Stringent hand washing taking place. Paper towels for drying of hands See hand washing guidance. https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/ Gel sanitisers in any area where washing facilities not readily available.</p>	<p>Employees and children to be reminded on a regular basis to wash their hands for 20 seconds with warm water and soap and the importance of proper drying. Also reminded to catch coughs and sneezes in tissues – Follow Catch it, Bin it, Kill it and to avoid touching face, eyes, nose or mouth with unclean hands. Tissues will be made available throughout the workplace.</p> <p>To help reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) reminding everyone of the public health advice -</p>		
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		<p>https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus</p> <p>Posters, leaflets and other materials are available for display.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19</p> <p>https://www.pacey.org.uk/Pacey/media/Website-files/PACEY%20general/Coronavirus_advice_for_educational_settings_poster.pdf</p> <p>Rigorous checks will be carried out by line managers to ensure that the necessary procedures are being followed.</p>			
		<p>Uniform</p> <p>Staff will wear black trousers and black T-shirt. When staff get home, they are advised to remove their uniform, place in a laundry bag and wash on the highest temperature permitted for that type of fabric. Staff are also advised to shower as soon as they get home. These steps are to be taken to minimise the chance of cross infection.</p> <p>Face Masks:</p> <p>We will not be wearing face masks within the setting as this would impact communication and learning. We have therefore provided visors for all staff and</p>	<p>This remains advisory.</p> <p>Visors will be required on feedback after 19/07/21 whilst variant is high in our locality. This will be reviewed as the pandemic subsides.</p>		

		<p>their own wallet in which to safely store their mask safely and hygienically.</p> <p>Visors provided for staff use and mask available to visitors if required.</p>	<p>Visitors and parents will continue to be asked to wear masks when visiting or during handover/feedback.</p>		
		<p><u>Parents dropping and collecting their children:</u></p> <p>Children will be dropped off and collected at the front door of the Nursery.</p> <p>Parents are asked to continue to wear face masks unless exempt.</p> <p>Feedback is given outside.</p> <p>Termly parent evenings are offered to further support communication.</p> <p><u>Parents visiting the setting:</u></p> <p>Viewings are offered out of hours. Parents must wear a face mask, sanitise and complete a covid visitors form.</p> <p>Virtual tour is available on our website.</p> <p>Settling in sessions can be attended by one parent and for up to 30mins or as soon as child has settled and consultation has been completed. Only member of staff, parent and child to be in the room during visit.</p>	<p>Visits will then go to 4pm-6pm when the setting has lower numbers when the local impact of variant has subsided (and after 19/07/21).</p>		

		<p><u>Professionals Visiting the setting:</u></p> <p>Non-essential visitors will not be permitted access to the Nursery during the pandemic. Any visits will be re-scheduled until a later date.</p> <p>Virtual visits can be arranged.</p> <p><u>Visitors to the setting:</u></p> <p>When essential visits are required to support child need/development or to undertake repairs etc., visitors must complete a visitor covid form, wear a mask unless exempt and sanitise. Staff will always wear a mask or visor provided.</p>			
		<p><u>Cleaning</u></p> <p>Frequent cleaning and disinfecting objects and surfaces that are touched regularly particularly in areas of high use such as door handles, light switches, toys and resources using appropriate cleaning products and methods.</p>	<p>Covid cleaning routines will remain in place as good practice.</p>		

		<p>Social Distancing Social Distancing - Reducing the number of persons in any work area to comply with the 2-metre (6.5 foot) gap recommended by the Public Health Agency where possible. https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people</p> <p>Ensuring sufficient rest breaks for staff.</p>	<p>Bubbles and social distancing can be relaxed as of 19/07/21 but whilst pandemic is high in our locality, although we will remove the bubbles, we will monitor numbers and space so as to operate safely during this time.</p>		
		<p><u>Wearing of Gloves / PPE</u> Where Risk Assessment identifies wearing of gloves as a requirement of the job (for example, nappy changing), an adequate supply of these will be provided. Staff will be instructed on how to remove gloves carefully to reduce contamination and how to dispose of them safely.</p> <p>Continue to use PPE as per normal practice when changing nappies, preparing food, cleaning and when with a sick child / isolation area.</p> <p><u>Ventilation:</u></p> <p>Where possible keep window safely open to support ventilation or make more use of outside areas.</p> <p><u>Office:</u></p>	<p>Staff to be reminded that wearing of gloves is not a substitute for good hand washing.</p>		

		<p>Ensure windows are open when possible and continue to use plastic desk shields.</p> <p><u>Lateral Flow Tests:</u></p> <p>Continue to undertake two weekly LFT.</p>			
		<p><u>Mental Health</u></p> <p>Management will promote mental health & wellbeing awareness to staff during the Coronavirus outbreak and will offer whatever support they can to help</p> <p>Reference -</p> <p>https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/</p> <p>www.hseni.gov.uk/stress</p> <p>https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/01/mental-health-resources-for-children-parents-carers-and-school-staff/</p>	<p>Regular communication of mental health information and open-door policy for those who need additional support.</p>		

		<p><u>Supporting Vulnerable groups:</u></p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/people-at-higher-risk/who-is-at-high-risk-from-coronavirus-clinically-extremely-vulnerable/</p> <p>Pregnant staff – see risk assessment – support change of job role at 28 weeks.</p> <p><u>Policies and Procedures:</u></p> <p>Ensure all policies and procedures are updated in line with covid guidance, practice and changes.</p> <p><u>Reporting Procedures:</u></p> <p>Refer to Local Authority (Public Health) Guidance and Templates.</p> <p>Report any positive covid cases within setting or closure of setting to Ofsted.</p> <p><u>Admitting back to setting:</u></p> <p>Follow back to work interview as normal.</p> <p>The child or staff member who tested positive for COVID-19 can return to their</p>	<p>Refer also to risk assessment EHCP.</p> <p>Continue to monitor safeguarding, particularly those who of low attendance or home isolating.</p> <p>In the vast majority of cases, settings and parents and carers will be in agreement that a child with symptoms should not attend the setting, given the potential risk to others. In the event that a parent or</p>		
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		<p>normal routine and stop self-isolating if they meet the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they have finished their isolation period and their symptoms have gone • they continue to have only a residual cough or anosmia (loss of taste and smell). This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone • they have a negative PCR test result after having a positive rapid lateral flow test <p>The child or staff member should not return if they still have a high temperature after 10 days or are otherwise unwell, they are advised to stay at home and seek medical advice.</p> <p>You should not request evidence of negative test results or other medical evidence before admitting children or welcoming them back after a period of self-isolation.</p> <p><u>Oral Health:</u></p> <p>Support with dry cleaning:</p>	<p>carer insists on a child attending the setting, you can take the decision to refuse the child if, in your reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect children and staff from possible infection with COVID-19. Any such decision would need to be carefully considered in the light of all the circumstances and current public health advice.</p> <p>As part of the new EYFS this will be introduced September 2021.</p>		
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		<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-supervised-toothbrushing-programmes</p> <p>Malleable and Messy Play:</p> <p>This has been removed during the pandemic or allowed when individual play with no cross contamination risk.</p> <p><u>Larger gatherings for events and celebrations:</u></p> <p>We will be led on government guidelines.</p> <p>Families travelling from abroad:</p> <p>Families should follow the rules on arriving in England following international travel, as set out in red, amber and green list rules for entering England.</p> <p>Trips outside the setting:</p>	<p>This can be re-introduced post 19/06/21 but continue to risk assess in line with current pandemic variant rate levels in our locality.</p> <p>Awaiting further confirmation.</p>		
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		<p>Trips are to be risk assessed as normal practice. Consent must be obtained from parents.</p> <p>Visits to Forest School and Beach School can now continue in small groups.</p> <p><u>Safeguarding and welfare:</u></p> <p>Children may be experiencing a variety of emotions in response to the pandemic, such as anxiety, stress or low mood. This may particularly be the case for vulnerable children, including those with a social worker. It is important to contextualise these feelings as normal responses to an abnormal situation.</p> <p>Consider using activities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support the rebuilding of friendships and social engagement • address and equip children to respond to the impact of COVID-19 and associated restrictions 	<p>The safeguarding and welfare requirements in the early years foundation stage (EYFS) still apply, including requirements relating to child protection arrangements. It is a legal requirement that settings must continue to take all necessary steps to keep children safe during this period and have regard to the statutory guidance on working together to safeguard children.</p> <p>We should also provide more focused support where issues are identified that individual children may need help with, drawing on external support where necessary and possible. We should also consider support needs of particular groups they are already aware of needing additional help (for example, children in</p>		
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• support children with approaches to improving their physical and mental wellbeing <p>Where there is a concern that a child is in need or suffering or likely to suffer from harm, the early years setting (generally led by DSL Lynne Grahame or Rachel Jones) we should follow our child protection policy. Consider any referral to statutory services (and the police) as appropriate.</p>	<p>need), and any groups they identify as newly vulnerable. To support this, we may wish to access the free resource MindEd learning platform for professionals, which contains materials on peer support, stress, fear and trauma, and bereavement.</p> <p>MindEd have also developed a COVID-19 staff resilience hub with advice and tips for frontline staff.</p>		
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Additional reference points:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/actions-for-early-years-and-childcare-providers-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-in-education-and-childcare-settings/contingency-framework-education-and-childcare-settings>

[Actions for education and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June](#)

[Implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings](#)

[Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus outbreak](#)

[Early years foundation stage \(EYFS\) coronavirus disapplications](#)

[Safe working in education, childcare and children's social care settings, including the use of personal protective equipment \(PPE\)"https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/early-years-and-childcare-coronavirus-covid-19](#)

Risk Assessment Implemented: 23.03.2020 / Updated: 01.04.2021

Covid Management Strategy implemented 19th July 2021

Review: Weekly until pandemic risks reduce.