



Coronavirus – Information for Parents & Carers

September 2021

Whilst coronavirus restrictions have eased, cases are on the rise and as schools return from the summer break we must continue to act carefully and remain cautious.

We must continue to do what we can to minimise risk and protect our children and families.

In addition to following national and local measures, I am continuing to follow UK Government guidance for childminders in order to keep all children and families safe.

The detailed guidance sets out the measures I must put in place at this time and can be found on the Government website here:

Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/999798/Actions_for_early_years_and_childcare_providers_during_the_COVID-19_pandemic.pdf

Safe working in education, childcare and children's social care

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care>

I have attached a copy of my **Coronavirus Policy** and **Risk Assessment** which outlines the safety measures and procedures within my setting.

Please read them carefully and support me in my efforts to help minimise risk and protect our children and families.

Please note that for the protection of everyone who attends my setting, and that of my own family some of the measures I have in place may go above and beyond government guidance. In addition to the health risks of infection, we must not forget that an outbreak at this time could still result in temporary closure of the setting causing disruption for everyone involved.

I would be extremely grateful if you can continue to support me in following my procedures and would like to draw your attention to the following safety measures:

Drop off and Collection

- **I will continue to meet parents at the entrance** of the setting when dropping off and collecting their child. Parents will only be invited in when there are specific matters to discuss in relation to their child's care.

Face Coverings

- The wearing of face coverings is no longer mandatory when dropping off or collecting your child. However, if you are coming inside to discuss your child's care, **wearing a face covering will help to reduce risk** for you and everyone attending the setting.

Personal Belongings

- With the exception of essential items required for comfort, personal care, medical or dietary requirements, I am continuing to discourage **personal belongings or toys** being brought into the setting from home. Comforters / snuggle toys are permitted and will be provided at nap and quiet times. On occasion, I may suggest that an item can be brought from home if it is related to a current topic or theme that we are learning about. Children's school bags will be stored in an allocated box until collection time.

School / Nursery Children and Blended / Wrap Around Care

For children that attend school / Nursery or other wrap around care, it is important that precautions are taken to minimise risk and contain any potential outbreaks. Please continue to follow any safety measures in place at any additional setting or club that your child attends.

Visitors

- For the time being I am continuing to **limit the number of visitors to the setting**, restricting to **essential visits or appointments only** for example from inspectors, learning support assistants, maintenance workers, healthcare workers, any other professionals that are necessary to support children or the running of the setting, or to discuss specific care requirements with parents.
- All visitors will be **encouraged to wear a face covering** to help reduce the risk of infection spread and invited to **wash / sanitise their hands** on arrival and before departing the setting.
- A notice is displayed at the setting entrance advising visitors of the system of controls in place.

Travelling Abroad

- If you have plans to travel abroad this summer, you must adhere to current **travel legislation**. Details of the **Red, amber and green list rules for entering England** can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/red-amber-and-green-list-rules-for-entering-england>

Symptoms, Illness or Suspected Infection

The symptoms of coronavirus include a new, continuous cough, a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, the normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

It is essential that you or your child does not attend my setting if symptomatic.

Anyone who develops symptoms of COVID-19 must self-isolate straight away, stay at home and follow the [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance](#). This applies to adults and children.

Further guidance is available on the NHS website here:

When to self-isolate and what to do: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19): <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Your child will not be able to attend my setting for the duration of the recommended isolation period or until a negative test result is received. As per my fees policy, full fees will still apply during this absence.

If a child within my setting is displaying symptoms of coronavirus, I will follow this guidance:

[What to do if a child is displaying symptoms of coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

I will send the child home, advise the family to follow the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#), and contact the Public Health England advice service for further guidance in the event of a positive case.

If I, or anyone else within my household display symptoms or come into contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus, government advice will be followed. I will notify families immediately and close my setting for the duration of the isolation period. *As per my fees policy, no fees will be charged during this time as I am unable to provide care.*

In the event of closure, I will try my best to assist parents and carers in finding alternative temporary childcare arrangements.



Coronavirus Guidance and Information

You can find current Coronavirus guidance and further information on what you can and cannot do on the Government website here:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Failure to follow government advice, local restrictions, official health guidelines, or refusing to support me with implementing the protective measures outlined in my Coronavirus Policy will be taken very seriously and may result in the immediate termination of our childcare contract.

I will continue to keep up to date with the latest government and health advice and where necessary update procedures and notify families of any changes.

If you have any questions regarding coronavirus management procedures within my setting, please do not hesitate to discuss them with me.