

COVID-19 policy

Policy statement

We prioritise the health and safety of the children and adults in our setting. This policy will be strictly adhered to throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and links with the COVID-19 Risk Assessment. (August 2020)

Procedures

Children's attendance

- Children should not attend the setting if they or a member of their household are unwell with a recent onset of any of the following:
 - a new continuous cough
 - a high temperature
 - a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If anyone has any of the symptoms above they should follow the government guidance and self-isolate at home

Children's individual belongings

- All items including clothes, bags, lunch boxes and water bottles must be named with the child's full name
- Suitable outdoor clothing and waterproofs to be brought in as preschool stock unable to be used
- Several changes of clothes must be brought in

Drop off

- Parent/carer and child to wait in outside area
- Parent/carer and child to wait in their car until marked spots are free
- Social distancing to be maintained when waiting in outside area
- Children not to play in outside area or touch equipment whilst waiting for entry
- Practitioner to meet child at the entrance – parent/carer not to enter the building
- Practitioner to assist child to place bag & coat on pre-allocated peg
- Practitioner to assist child to wash hands before entering main room

Collection

- Parent/carer to wait in the outside area socially distanced
- Children to be brought to the entrance and passed to parent/carer outside not in the foyer
- Practitioner to ensure that children take home all items including coats, lunch boxes and drink bottles
- Children not to play in outside area or touch equipment

If children appear ill with COVID-19 symptoms at the setting

- If a child becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature they will be sent home and advised to follow the government staying at home guidance.
- If a child is awaiting collection, they will be moved, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door with appropriate adult supervision. Ideally, a window will be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them they will be moved to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people.
- If contact with the child or young person is necessary, then disposable gloves, a disposable apron and a fluid-resistant surgical face mask will be worn by the supervising adult. If a risk assessment determines that there is a risk of splashing to the eyes, for example from coughing, spitting, or vomiting, then eye protection will also be worn
- In an emergency, 999 will be called if they are seriously ill or their life is at risk

Cleaning and hygiene

- Surfaces that children touch such as toys, books, tables, chairs, doors, sinks, toilets will be cleaned regularly with sanitising fluid as required
- Toys and activities will be rested for 72 hours if unable to be cleaned/sanitised
- All adults and children will frequently wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and dry thoroughly
- All adults and children will wash their hands on arrival at the setting, before and after eating, and after sneezing or coughing
- All children will be encouraged not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose and to use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste ('catch it, bin it, kill it')

This policy was adopted by

The Lantern Preschool

On

16th May 2020

(date)

Last Updated

7th January 2022

To be reviewed

In line with changes to government