Checklist for Early Years and Childcare Settings

COVID 19 opening Risk Assessment and procedure

RISK; transmission of Coronavirus between staff/children/parents/visitors

Updated 14th April 2021 S.A.Sexon

Area of risk

This is the set of actions early years settings must take. They are grouped into 'prevention' and 'response to any infection'.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures#system-of-controls-protective-measures

Prevention

Action to be taken

11) Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend settings.

System of Controls

- 2) Use of face coverings.
- 3) Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual.
- 4) Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- 5) Introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents and bleach.
- 6) Minimise contact between groups where possible.
- 7) Where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

Family members are able to access COVID testing and should ring 119 re testing of under 5 year olds. Absence is until negative Covid test result and the child is well (normal temperature for 48 hour without medication) or 14 days self isolation, and when the child is well.

Parents and visitors are asked to wear face coverings when dropping and collecting children and to keep 2 metre distance from staff where ever possible.

Parents are asked to complete a Covid update form as their children return to nursery, with up dates of personal information, authority to collect within a support bubble, and any developmental milestones to share.

Belongings from home to be kept to a minimum, keep at nursery if possible.

Any necessary belongings (such as comforters and lunch boxes) to be sprayed with Dettol spray on arrival and kept on pegs/out of reach as much as possible.

Parents will meet staff at the front door, queuing outside at 2metre distance while waiting.

Staff from the child's bubble will take the children to their room (if children happily walk in themselves, they will be guided from an available member of staff.

At home time, children will be taken to their parent for handover

Parents are requested to wear face coverings. (staff also wearing face coverings)

Remove coats before entering the room and store in cloak area.

Wash hands thoroughly on arrival at the setting, when changing rooms and before eating, before and after messy play and after using the toilet/potty

If a child seems unwell or not quite themself, their temperature is to be taken and send home if 37.8 or above (consider if the child has been running around/change of environment etc and retake if sensible to do so)

Encourage children to avoid touching their face, eyes, nose, and mouth, without making them anxious

Ensure children are reminded regularly to catch a sneeze/cough/wipe their nose with a tissue and put it in the bin, then wash their hands

Staff must always wash their hands after wiping a nose

All children and staff coming to the setting should avoid all non-essential public transport travel, and outside of setting hours, minimise social interactions, as per Government Guidance;

After using nursery car or minibus, the driver is responsible to clean all touchpoints; steering wheel, handbrake, radio and controls, window buttons, door hand, seat belt. Sanitiser, disposable gloves, antibac wipes and face masks are available in the car.

Contact with catering team;

Before entering the kitchen the staff member must wear a face covering. Sanitise hands after visiting the kitchen.

When visit petrol station

Face covering if entering the pay kiosk

Gloves on to use petrol pump

Sanitise hands when finished

Implement social distancing where possible:

- Groups to stay within their rooms/area of garden and staff to minimise moving around.
- Parents are not permitted to enter the nursery building, staff will be ready to encourage children into the setting from the porch.
- Staff wear face coverings in all communal areas and when entering another bubble or alongside staff from another bubble, and when meeting parents at handover times. Staff may choose to continue wearing face coverings in their rooms. (to be aware of children who may become anxious of facemasks or those children who need covering removed to aid communication/understanding.

Play and Learning
Daily care

March 8th staff may occasionally work in other rooms, this is noted on registers/rota for tracing at times of a positive case.

Daily risk assessment and Covid checklist in playrooms and reception area

Minimise the resources available to those that can be cleaned effectively. Shared play may only be used under the strict following of the procedures below.

Sand and water may be used in individual trays (with equipment and materials washed / replaced after use) or one tray with children washing hands before and after use and materials disposed and equipment washed after use.

Soft toys/cushions to be removed, and any toys difficult to clean (Dettol spray used on furnishings unable to be removed or equipment too difficult to clean.)

Toys will not be shared between groups until cleaned (indoors and outdoors toys)

The EYFS dispplications end on 25th September*. Therefore children's activities should be planned to meet their needs/next steps and interests, our main focus is on children's emotional well being and their three prime areas of development; Personal, Social and Emotional Development=nt, Communication and Language and Physical Development. *In place again January 2021, to end March 2021.

Children should continue to enjoy a broad range of educational opportunities

Sand and water – to consider providing children with their own small tray (supervised water) which can be emptied and antibac cleaned after use. Sand and water to be thrown away after use. One tray may be used, wash hands before and after play and materials to be discarded after use and equipment washed)

Clay may be used for therapeutic play (children must only use their own portion of clay and not share) and then child's final creation must be named clearly and sent home after air drying for at least 72 hours.

Playdough, children may have their own portion of playdough to be discarded after use.

Messy /art activities - children to wash their hands before the activity and after. Any pots/brushes to be removed if sneezed/coughed/dribbled on during the activity. Children wash their hands after activity and all items to be washed after use.

Regular outdoor play in zoned areas (ie each group has their own area of garden, plenty of space to do this), even eating outdoors if possible.

Windows open in very room throughout the day, and doors where safe to do so. If weather is very cold, bursts of window opening periodically during the day.

Toys and equipment will be cleaned end of each session (including outdoor play, slides etc)

Cushions, rugs should be removed wherever possible, if any items are used they must be removed at end of session to be laundered or sprayed with disinfectant spray and dried.

Suncream – staff to apply wearing disposable gloves rather than touching child's skin. Children to arrive wearing suncream so only a need for team to apply after lunch

Ensure children wash hands regularly and supervised throughout the day, as well as before eating, after coughing or sneezing.

	Helpful resources to support the children in your setting;
	https://www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/spotlight-on/coronavirus/supporting-children-in-your-setting-coronavirus/
Reports and Learning Journeys	Two year old checks will continue to be carried our in preparation for children's reviews with Health Visitors Learning Journeys will continue to be tracked for each child and observations from parents during 'stay at home' period have been used as part of this process
	An update of children's progress will be shared with parents regularly and the website and FB page will be used as avenues to show parents the activities they have enjoyed.
Singing	Singing will continue at nursery, preferably outside, If indoors, windows should be open and children spaced out at circletime. Continue this activity as usual as singing and rhymes are so important for children's and staff emotional wellbeing however do not encourage the volume to increase.
	Where two bubbles of children come together of a story/singing, the two groups should be spaced with at least 2 meters between the groups and alongside rather than face to face. The storyteller should also maintain a social distance from children not in their bubble
	If playing background music while children at play, keep to a level to discourage singing at volume.
Music and dancing	We will continue to play music and children to dance as this brings happiness and enriches their lives, and opportunity to express themselves, again ensuring space and with windows open. Do not encourage singing of volume.
	Playing instruments is not discouraged, outside is preferable, although inside with space to distance and windows open is acceptable Avoid instruments which touch the mouth, such as recorders and whistles.
	Instruments to be cleaned after use, using antiseptic sprays for intricate objects. Avoid passing instruments around, have enough for the whole group

	Staff have face shields (or may chose to wear face covering) to use at times when social distancing is not possible, this may include in playrooms with children is staff feel safer. Meeting parents at front door Staff meetings (although these will be video chats wherever possible) Working in a room with staff from another bubble (kitchen/hallway) – however please still maintain 2 metre distance Meeting visitors
Shielding staff	We will follow Government guidance on staff who need to shield, or have a member of their family who needs to shield. Staff will have a return to work meeting, risk assessment and covid procedures discussed.
Shortage of staffing	In the event of staff shortage, in the first instance current staff will have shifts changed to cover and supernumerary staff will also cover shortages. Bubble groups will be reviewed and moved as necessary (with moves recorded in case of positive case) Bank staff will be employed (from our own bank of casual staff) We will work with Local Authority if all avenues have been exhausted, to identity how appropriate provision can be put in place, which may be pooling staff with another setting (or take on DBS checked staff from another setting) Staffing will be reviewed on a weekly basis, rather than daily, to limit contacts.
Visitors to nursery	Visitors to be avoided at nursery with the exception; Parent meeting a member of staff to settle their child at nursery - to be arranged with face coverings, using empty room with cleaning after meeting. Parents wait in their car while child plays in nursery for a short period. Social worker,police EHO inspector Ofsted inspector HSE inspector Outside agencies to support a child 1:1 carer for children who need additional support Contractors such as pest control, building maintenance – to be out of hours wherever possible.
	Visitors are asked to adhere to visit time and not to arrive early and are sent this risk assessment (if time allows) prior to their visit.

They are asked to wear face covering and where possible the meeting will take place with least number of staff possible (preferably one), who will also wear face covering.

Visitors must use sanitiser when entering and leaving the nursery.

Contractors (ie fire alarm service) should visit where possible arranged to work outside of nursery hours, or in areas where no contact with children or adults. In the case of contact, children and staff will be asked to move to a distance and the visitor to wear a face covering/PPE.

The summer house in the garden is used for meetings, with windows open and the visitor uses the garden gate to avoid coming through the building. When summer house is already in use, the dining room or baby kitchen may be used, also procedures (and cleaning when finished)

If the visitor needs interaction with the child, arrangements will be made

- 1. Ideally in the garden/forest school (especially if to observe social skills etc)
- Or in the summer house (accompanied by member of staff)
- To minimise numbers of adults in the rooms, we prefer visitors not to enter rooms with nursery staff working with groups of children. This is unavoidable we will discuss an area of the room where contact is minimal, with social distancing and face covering in place.

SAFEGUARDING The visitor is reminded that cameras on phones/watches etc must remain in their bag and photography is not permitted while on site and are accompanied by a member of our team.

If the visitor is coming into the nursery their phone must be kept at the front desk (and if using a laptop in the room for their work, the camera must be covered)

If an inspector is to be situated in the nursery office to work (ie Ofsted inspector) they make keep their phone in the office. However cameras on laptops/tablets must be covered.

Visiting a child (outside agency)

The child's parent is informed of the visitor coming to see their child (unless there is safeguarding reason not to do so ie emergency social worker visit)

- 1. In the first instance the visitor will be situated in the summer house and observe the child from a distance while they play and interact in the garden, accompanied by SENDCo /manager/keyworker/safeguarding lead
- 2. To minimise numbers of adults in the rooms, we prefer visitors not to enter rooms with nursery staff working with groups of children. This is unavoidable we will discuss an area of the room where contact is minimal, with social distancing and face covering in place.

If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they have the conservatory bathroom to use with nappy

Accompanying member of staff should wear PPE; apron/gloves/face shield (or face mask and safety glasses until shields are available)

If a member of staff has helped someone who displayed symptoms they do not need to go home unless they develop symptoms themselves. They should wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after any contact with someone who is unwell.

If clinical advice is needed, the setting staff, parent or guardian should go online or ring 119. Nursery is able to refer employees for COVID testing If an emergency dial 999 (112 on a mobile) If this is for a child, the parent will also need to be contacted when emergency services have been contacted. For a member of staff their emergency contact will need to be informed. March 2021 Parents are reminded that home kits for lateral flow tests are not for children and also not for anyone with symptoms and a PCR test must be booked while household isolates. See Nursery policy and procedure; what to do if a child shows symptoms of Covid 19 Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces throughout the day. This includes tables, chairs, resources, equipment, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, toilets, taps, and sinks, doorbells, hand santiser dispensers Spray antibac (1% chloride) spray and wipe clean. March 2021 introduced Zoflora disinfectant spray for surfaces and touchpoints . See three steps below; **Undertake regular** cleaning 1. Wear disposable gloves for cleaning and dispose of immediately after cleaning. 2.Using a disposable cloth, first clean hard surfaces with antibac (1% chloride) spray and wipe.March 2021 also using Zoflora disinfectant diluted for spraying touchpoints and surfaces. ALL CLEANING FLUIDS INCLUDING HAND SANITISER MUST BE KEPT OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN AT ALL TIMES AND LOCKED AWAY WHEREVER POSSIBLE- ALL STAFF TO BE VIGILANT