

Infection Control Policy October 2025 (No Updates)

Viruses and infections can be easily passed from person to person by breathing in air containing the virus which is produced when an infected person talks, coughs or sneezes. It can also spread through hand/face contact after touching a person or surface contaminated with viruses.

Prevention

Social Distancing

- Parents will drop off children without entering the building.

Handwashing:

- Staff and children will wash hands regularly either using soap and water or hand sanitiser and on the following occasions:
 - On arrival and departure of rooms,
 - Before and after wiping noses, mouths or coughing/sneezing,
 - Before and after toileting,
 - Before and after serving/eating food.

Cleaning

- Toilets, potties and changing mats will be disinfected regularly.
- Regular touch points will be disinfected regularly
- Rooms will be mopped and disinfected at end of each day.
- Cleaning schedules will be followed for each room.
- Management inspections of cleaning schedules will be carried out.

Isolation

- Staff or children with coughs, colds, high temperatures or other symptoms of illness making them unwell should stay home until they feel well enough.
- Staff or children in nursery with symptoms will be require risk assessments and measures put in place to minimise the spread of infection, this could involve working outdoors, social distancing, wearing masks.
- The Nursery Manager will decide the arrangements for staff or children with symptoms on a case-by-case basis depending on the circumstances of each case.

Other measures.

- Rooms will be decluttered to reduce the number of objects that can be handled and need cleaning.
- Time in gardens and the outdoors will be increased.
- Children encouraged to use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch germs
- Tissues are disposed of in a hygienic way and all children and staff wash their hands once the tissue is disposed of.
- The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach will be promoted in the nursery.
- Develop children's understanding of the above and the need for good hygiene procedures in helping them to stay healthy.
- Staff to wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when changing nappies, toileting children and dealing with any other bodily fluids. Staff are

requested to dispose of these in the appropriate manner and wash hands immediately.

- Toys, equipment and resources to be cleaned on a regular basis by following a comprehensive cleaning rota and using antibacterial cleanser, sterilisers or through washing in the washing machine.
- Individual bedding to be provided for children so that is not used by any other child and washed at least once a week.
- Parents and visitors to remove all outdoor footwear or use shoe covers when entering rooms where children may be crawling or sitting on the floor

In addition:

- The nursery manager retains the right of refusal of all children, parents, staff and visitors who are deemed contagious and may impact on the welfare of the rest of the nursery, where necessary parents will be required to collect children if they are already in nursery but displaying symptoms of infectious diseases, e.g. diarrhea.
- Parents will be made aware of the need for these procedures in order for them to follow these guidelines whilst in the nursery
- Periodically each room in the nursery will be deep cleaned including carpets and soft furnishings to ensure the spread of infection is limited.
- The nursery will ensure stocks of tissues, hand washing equipment, cleaning materials and sterilising fluid are always maintained.

Communication:

The nursery will let parents know when there is an outbreak of infectious illnesses. Early years providers have a duty to inform Ofsted of any serious accidents, illnesses or injuries as follows:

- Anything that requires resuscitation
- Admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours
- A broken bone or fracture
- Dislocation of any major joint, such as the shoulder, knee, hip or elbow
- Any loss of consciousness
- Severe breathing difficulties, including asphyxia
- Anything leading to hypothermia or heat-induced illness

In some circumstances this may include a confirmed case of a Notifiable Disease. It is not the responsibility of the nursery to diagnose a notifiable disease; this can only be done by a GP. If a child is displaying symptoms that indicate they may be suffering from a notifiable disease, parents will be advised to seek a medical diagnosis. Once a diagnosis is confirmed, the nursery will seek and follow guidance from the UKHSA.

Where a child has gone to hospital as a result of a lapse in health and safety at the nursery Ofsted and RIDDOR will be notified.