



Covid-19 Infection Control Policy

THIS DOCUMENT is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for implementing Covid19 Infection control procedures at Brockham Green Nursery.

IT WAS DEVELOPED using up to date government guidance, early years and additional guidance from surrey county Council.

IT WAS APPROVED by the Staff in the Summer Term 2020.

THIS POLICY WILL BE REVIEWED when required, as additional guidance is issued.

Contents

1. Introduction.....	1
2. Aims and Objectives.....	2
3. Principles.....	2
4. Covid-19 Infection control measures.....	3

1 INTRODUCTION

This policy has been written following guidance issued by the government in response to the current Covid-19 pandemic. Guidance can be read online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-andchildcare-settings>

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

This policy aims to provide the nursery community with guidance when preparing for and implementing the phased reopening of nursery during the Covid-19 pandemic. It contains a checklist of actions to aid planning and preparing for the return of increased numbers of staff and children with the aim of minimising the risk of further infection amongst the nursery community. This policy will be reviewed as the planned re-opening of nursery progresses and new guidance is issued.

3. PRINCIPLES

Covid-19 is spread from person to person by close contact, for example:

- * Infected people can pass a virus to others through large droplets when coughing, sneezing or even talking within a close distance.
- * Through direct contact with an infected person: for example, if you shake or hold their hand, and then touch your own mouth, eyes or nose without first washing your hands.
- * By touching objects (e.g., door handles, light switches, pencils) that have previously been touched by an infected person, then touching your own mouth, eyes or nose without first washing your hands. The virus can survive longer on hard surfaces than on soft or absorbent surfaces.

4. COVID-19 INFECTION CONTROL MEASURES

i) Hygiene Practice

Staff will talk to the children and support them, about how to reduce the risk of passing on infections to others:

- * Wash your hands for 20 seconds with soap and water upon arrival at nursery, before and after eating and after sneezing or coughing.
- * Minimise contact between your hands and mouth, eyes and nose.
- * Use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste ('catch it, bin it, kill it');
- * Do not attend nursery, if you think you may have symptoms of Covid-19 infection. Parents will be contacted if staff feel a child is not well enough to be in nursery.

SOCIAL DISTANCING AND HANDWASHING ARE KEY PARTS OF COVID-19 INFECTION CONTROL

In addition to the above advice, the following measures should be implemented:

- * Children will be in 2 bubbles, one bubble on Monday and Tuesday and the other bubble on Thursday and Friday. Staff will be cleaning prior to the children attending their days.
- * Children will be supervised when washing hands to ensure it is done effectively, and adult help is available for those who need it.
- * Bins for tissues are emptied throughout the morning.
- * The use of shared equipment is limited, and these items are disinfected where shared use is unavoidable.
- * Play equipment is cleaned between uses.
- * Soft furnishings, soft toys and toys that are hard to clean (such as those with intricate parts) are removed.
- * Children will not be allowed to bring items from home to avoid cross-contamination.

- * Doors and windows should be kept open where possible (bearing in mind fire safety and safeguarding) to limit the use of door handles and to increase ventilation.

- * Additional alcohol-based sanitiser (min 60% alcohol) is provided in nursery.

- * Spillages of bodily fluids, e.g., respiratory and nasal discharges, are cleaned up immediately. Staff will wear protective masks, gloves and aprons when doing so, disposing of materials used in specified bins.

- * Staff will carry out thorough, daily cleaning that follows national guidance and is compliant with the COSHH Policy and the Health and Safety Policy.

ii) Implementing Social Distancing

- * Maintain social distancing. Staff will be doing this as much as possible with each other. Children will only be mixing with the children in their bubble. Staff will be social distancing from parents.

- * Outdoor learning is used as often as possible; we will be using our garden and only going outside when staff know that they are able to keep the children away from others.

iii) Ill Health at nursery

- * Staff are informed of the symptoms of possible coronavirus infection, e.g., a cough, difficulty in breathing and high temperature, loss of taste or smell and are kept up to date with national guidance about the signs, symptoms and transmission of coronavirus.

- * Any child or member of staff who display signs of being unwell is immediately taken to another area of the hall.

- * Children displaying symptoms of Covid-19 will be kept in an area where they can be at least 2 metres away from others.

- * Parents of ill children will be contacted as soon as possible.

- * Areas used by unwell children are thoroughly cleaned once vacated.

- * Parents are informed via letter not to bring their children to nursery or on the nursery premises if they show signs of being unwell and believe they have been exposed to coronavirus.

- * Children who have displayed symptoms of coronavirus must self-isolate for 14 days before returning to nursery. Children and parents' queue 2 metres apart at entrances and exits to avoid risks of transmission.

iv) Parental Engagement

- * Parents are told that if their child needs to be accompanied to nursery then only one adult can attend.

- * Parents are told where the allocated drop off and collection areas are.

- * Parents are told that they cannot gather at the entrance or doors or enter the site (unless they have a pre-arranged appointment, which should be conducted safely).

v) Communication

- * Children, parents, carers or any visitors such as suppliers, are told not to enter nursery area, if they are displaying Covid-19 symptoms (following the COVID-19, guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection.

- * The designated member of staff reports immediately to the Manager about any cases of suspected coronavirus, even if they are unsure.

- * The staff contacts the Public Health immediately about any cases of suspected coronavirus, even if they are unsure, and discusses if further action needs to be taken.

- * The nursery will keep all parents adequately updated about any changes to infection control procedures as necessary.

Review date – Nov'22