



Covid-19 Policy – living with Covid-19

To all staff, children and parents

Introduction

Following the Government announcement from Thursday 24th February the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test has been removed. Below is to clarify that the following guidance that is unchanged at our nursery.

‘Children and adults who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. After 5 days, they may use a Lateral flow test followed by another test the next day. If both are negative and they are well i.e.do not have a temperature, they can carry on with their normal routine.’ Statement the Covid-19 Government response to living with Covid.

Purpose of the Policy

To protect all employee’s at Mini Munchkins nursery including parents and children, from encountering Coronavirus (COVID-19).

To maintain the minimum level of staff needed to continue to provide early years education service and to meet the welfare and care needs of the children who attend the setting.

To ensure that the prevention of the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) remains at a minimum risk.

Monitoring

Mini Munchkins Nursery is closely monitoring and gathering information from the Department of Health England, The Department of Education, our Local Authority (Croydon council) and any and all guidelines delivered and updated through official government sources constantly to ensure that we have the most up to date information and work place practises concern the spread and containment of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

This includes all training and delivery methods to all employee’s, Directors and any other third party associated with the running or participation with Mini Munchkins Nursery.

Mini Munchkins nursery reserves the right to make all changes to this document to uphold guidance of safe working practises and delivery methods for the early years education sector.

General

- Employees are always advised to practise strict hygiene and cleanliness procedures.

March 2022



- Employee's must wash their hands at regular intervals for a minimum of 20 seconds using soap and warm water.
- Employees are advised to cough or sneeze into their elbow when a tissue or other vessel cannot be reached in time and are then to always wash their hands afterwards.
- Employees are advised to avoid close contact with others, such as handshakes and are to maintain practice social distancing as best they can.
- Employees are to avoid touching their eyes, nose, and face whilst on the premises and whilst children are in their care.
- Employee's must wash all their uniform before entering the premises for their next shift.
- At the end of each day, all employee's must clean and sanitise all surfaces, toys, fabrics, toileting areas, outdoor areas and equipment, ready for the following days usage, this includes all outside toys to be stored away in secure storage containers at the end of every working day and before weekend/holiday period closures or closures for health and safety measures.
- Only disposable towels, provided for by Mini Munchkins, will be permitted for use whilst on the premises.
- No prams, scooters, bikes, or any other items are to be left at the setting at any time.
- Please be aware that your children will meet both staff members and other children attending the setting during the session times. Although every measure will be taken to ensure that your child has minimal contact with others, children of the early years age group will inevitably want to hug and touch others through play or when needing comfort. Therefore, it is vital that not only we will adhere to best practise hygiene policies throughout the day, but that parents can also support this by changing their children into different clothing when they return home and placing that days clothing in the wash. If your child needs comfort, our staff will comfort them and will do their absolute best to make sure that all their social, emotional and wellbeing is met whilst in attendance at Mini Munchkins.

Hygiene on Arrival

- Staff may greet parent's wearing the appropriate PPE equipment, as supplied by Mini Munchkins nursery, when accepting your child onto the premises. This will include disposable face mask. These will be disposed of after every use.

Parents will still be asked to stay outside the setting and a staff member will collect your child and take the to their designated rooms.

Hygiene during the day

- Children will be actively encouraged to wash their hands after every activity or after playing in a specific area. We will use water and hand soap for this with a minimum wash time of 20



seconds per child, demonstrating good modelling behaviours for the children to see best practise when doing this. After an activity/toy playing session has ended, all equipment/toys shall be cleaned after every use.

- If your child is displaying a temperature of 37.8 degrees, has a new cough, looks generally unwell or is displaying any other signs associated with coronavirus (COVID-19) then your child will be asked to do a Covid test to confirm it is not a positive case. If your child has a positive case, they will be excluded from nursery for a period of 5 days and are well. This will then help to control the spread of the virus within our setting.
- Children will still be allowed to collect their own snack on their plates using the tongs provided which will be cleaned before each new child uses the equipment. The same process will be followed when the children access milk and water during snack time. This will help to promote confidence and motor skills whilst maintaining best practice with hygiene procedures.
- At snack, nappy changes/toileting help and any other close contact with the children, staff will be required to wear the appropriate PPE equipment as supplied by Mini Munchkins Nursery.
- All employees will have a designated area to hang belongings, along with a lockable area for high value goods such as purses, phones etc. Staff leave all belongs at their own risk whilst on the premises and Mini Munchkins accept no liability for loss or damage currently.
- Both the kitchen and toileting/nappy changing areas will be regularly cleaned and sanitised during the day by all employees.

Hygiene upon leaving

- All parents should continue to social distance at collection times and may wear masks if they wish.
- Staff will bring your child to the door at collection times.
- If your child comes home in spare clothing from the setting. Please can you ensure that this is washed and returned to the setting upon your child's next attend session.
- If you require to talk to the staff regarding your child's attendance, a telephone consultation will be arranged for you.
- If you are required to sign an accident/incident form from an occurrence that may have happened that day, a staff member will bring you the relevant form when you collect your child.

Adapted March 2022

M.Turner

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