**COVID Procedures**

**Updated in line with GOV guidance - 1st April 2022**

At preschool we are continuing to keep families and the team as safe as possible, also to remain open. We have reflected on the recent GOV. guidance, advise from Peterborough Early Years teams and our own provision and risk assessments.

These are the revised guidance and advise given:

* Testing has ended for all children in childcare.
* There will be no public access to testing aside from private sector testing.
* From 1 April, anyone with **a positive COVID-19 test result** will be advised to **try to stay at home** and avoid contact with other people for **five days**, which is when they are most infectious.

For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be **three days**.  This will rely on people accessing paid tests.

* From 1 April, updated guidance will advise **people with symptoms of a respiratory infection**, including COVID-19, and a high temperature or who feel unwell, **to try stay at home and avoid contact with other people, until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.**
* Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to early years and childcare when they **no longer have a high temperature**, and they are well enough to attend.
* Settings are expected to take these measures
  + Ensuring occupied spaces are well-ventilated and let fresh air in.
  + Reinforcing good hygiene practices such as hand washing and cleaning.

These are the revised procedures for **CASTOR & AILSWORTH PRESCHOOL:**

*These procedures take into account the above guidance and our own provision and risk assessments:*

**Testing:**

* Children are no longer requested to take a test. Private tests on the discretion of parents/carers.
* Staff no longer test twice a week but will LFT (while stocks are available) if required.

**Stay at home requirements if your child has ANY of the following;**

*Please advise a member of the team at your earliest convenience by phone or email:*

* ANY symptoms of respiratory infection
* High temperature (38+)
* ANY symptoms of COVID – continuous cough, temperature and/or loss of taste and/or smell
* Sickness and/or Diarrhoea for 48 hours AFTER the LAST bout.
* ANY conditions following the ‘Illness Policy’ found on our website.
* Children with a positive test result MUST remain home for a minimum of 3 days after the result is received and they are fully well.

Children may return once FULLY well enough to continue with normal activities and have no temperature.

**Staff sickness:**

* Staff are asked to follow the procedures as above.
* Staff with a positive COVID test result must remain home for 5 days after the result is received. Tests are at the persons discretion.

**Visitors:**

* Show arounds and visits for new families will now resume
* Events with invitations to parents/carers will resume where a risk assessment has been completed
* Parents/carers should continue to leave and collect children at the door where possible.

**Preschool measures:**

* Continue to clean all areas of high usage
* Well ventilate indoor areas
* Ensure good hygiene with regards hand washing
* Follow procedures for isolation where a child or adult becomes unwell with suspected COVID or any other suspected infectious illness.