



Coronavirus (Covid-19) Risk Assessment

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus.

Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes. *World Health Organisation 2020. https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus#tab=tab_1 [Accessed 17/05/2020]*

The following documents have been used as guidance in writing this risk assessment.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings-including-the-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-ppe>

<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-and-childcare-settings>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/885631/Overview_of_scientific_advice_and_information_on_coronavirus_COVID19.pdf

<https://www.eyalliance.org.uk/controlling-infection-your-early-years-setting>

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/888/Infection%20Prevention%20and%20Control%20for%20Childcare%20Settings%20Final%202014%20%282%29.output.pdf>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-early-years-and-childcare-settings-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-early-years-and-childcare-settings>

What are the hazards?	Spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus				
Who might be harmed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children • Staff • Parents/ Carers • Visitors to your premises • Vulnerable groups – Elderly, Pregnant workers, children & staff with existing underlying health conditions. 				
Controls Required	Implementation	Additional Controls	Action by who?	Action by when?	Done
Avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms	<p>All persons displaying symptoms will be excluded from the setting.</p> <p>Those displaying symptoms will be asked to self-isolate for 7 days & seek medical advice.</p> <p>Those living with someone displaying symptoms will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days & seek medical advice.</p>	<p>Staff displaying symptoms will be excluded & asked to be tested, they will be readmitted to the setting on testing negative or after 7 days if symptoms have passed.</p> <p>Children displaying symptoms during the session, parents will be contacted and asked to take their child home. Advice will be given to for the child to self-isolate for 7 days & the household for 14 days & to seek medical advice.</p>	ALL	Continuous	
Frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices	<p>Hand washing facilities with soap and water in place.</p> <p>Stringent hand washing taking place.</p>	<p>Staff & Children will be encouraged to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds, using hand soap and running warm water.</p> <p>Visual guidance to be displayed near sinks.</p> <p>See hand washing guidance. https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/</p>	<p>Staff & Children</p> <p>LR</p>	<p>Continuous</p> <p>1/6/2020</p>	

	<p>Drying of hands with disposable paper towels. Disposing of the paper towels in the bin provided.</p> <p>Staff and children are encouraged to protect the skin by applying emollient cream regularly</p> <p>Gel sanitisers in any area where washing facilities not readily available for example outside.</p> <p>Follow Catch it, Bin it, Kill it and to avoid touching face, eyes, nose or mouth with unclean hands.</p>	<p>https://www.nursingtimes.net/news/research-and-innovation/paper-towels-much-more-effective-at-removing-viruses-than-hand-dryers-17-04-2020/</p> <p>Help prevent skin from cracking. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/emollients/</p> <p>Gel sanitisers to be kept out of the reach of children.</p> <p>Reminded to catch coughs and sneezes in tissues. Tissues will be made available throughout the setting. Visual guidance to be displayed near tissues.</p>	<p>Staff & Children</p> <p>Staff & Children</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>LR</p>	<p>Continuous</p> <p>Continuous</p> <p>Continuous</p> <p>01/06/2020</p>	
Regular cleaning of settings	<p>Remove items that are not easily cleaned.</p> <p>Reduce items coming into the setting.</p> <p>Limit access to resources to prevent contamination.</p> <p>Increased frequency of cleaning.</p>	<p>Remove soft toys and soft furnishings, dressing up clothes and toys with intricate parts. Sand pit not to be used.</p> <p>Parents to be asked not to allow their child to bring toys from home into the setting. Written guidance to be given to parents prior to reopening.</p> <p>Provide a limited range of resources on a sessional basis, ensuring these have been cleaned prior to being stored after use.</p> <p>Tables to be wiped before & after use, using an antibacterial spray & paper towel. Door handles to be wiped after every session. Surfaces to be wiped after every session & immediately if soiled.</p>	<p>LR</p> <p>LR</p> <p>All Staff</p> <p>All Staff</p>	<p>01/06/2020</p> <p>28/05/2020</p> <p>Continuous</p> <p>Continuous</p>	

	Toys & storages boxes.	Continuous provision to be cleaned daily including the storage boxes using a Milton solution, & dried before storing. Toys that are visibly soiled or have been in the mouth will be washed immediately.	All Staff	Continuous	
	Use of malleable materials for example playdough, clay etc...	These will be disposed of immediately if mouthed, visibly soiled or weekly. Resources used with the malleable materials will be washed daily.	All Staff	Continuous	
	Use of rugs & mats	Flat pile rugs to be hoovered every day. Wipeable mats to be wiped using an antibacterial wipe every day.	All Staff	Continuous	
	Clothing	To be washed regularly or if soiled. <i>PHE and the DfE have confirmed that there is no need to clean your clothes immediately after leaving work at a childcare setting – this is only required by healthcare professionals.</i> https://www.eyalliance.org.uk/controlling-infection-your-early-years-setting	All Staff	Continuous	
	Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	<i>Public Health England and the Department for Education has said that "childcare practitioners do not need PPE".</i> 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-and-childcare-settings PPE is only to be used for activities & procedures that normally require PPE for example nappy changing & cleaning up blood &	All Staff	Continuous	

		bodily fluids. Or if a child starts to display symptoms of Covid-19 during the session.			
Minimising contact and mixing	<p>Shielding – Clinically vulnerable individuals who are at higher risk of severe illness (for example, people with some pre-existing conditions as set out in the Staying at home and away from others (social distancing) guidance have been advised to take extra care in observing social distancing and should work from home where possible.</p>	<p>Staff & Parents will be asked to consider if they, their children, or a member of the household falls into this category & to seek medical advice before returning to the preschool. A link to the NHS guidance will be circulated prior to reopening.</p> <p>If a child or staff members is in the moderate risk category, then medical advice is to be sort prior to returning to preschool. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/people-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/whos-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/</p>	LR	28/05/2020	
	<p>Social Distancing -Reducing the number of persons in any area to comply with the 2-metre (6.5 foot) gap recommended by the Public Health Agency https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people</p>	<p>Display Poster reminding parents.</p>	LR	01/06/2020	
		<p>Provide written guidance about control measures prior to reopening.</p>	LR	28/05/2020	
	<p>Encourage Parents & Carers not to stand together when dropping off or collecting their child, and to observe the 2m social distancing guidelines.</p> <p>Staff to maintain a 2m distance from each other as far is reasonably practicable.</p>	<p>Verbally remind parents / carers of the social distancing measures if seen standing too close to chat.</p> <p>Staff to be reminded on a daily basis of the importance of social distancing both in the workplace and outside of it. Management checks to ensure this is adhered to.</p> <p>1 person in the kitchen or at the hatch as any one time</p>	All staff	Continuous	

	<p>Maintaining 2m distance at boundary outside. Ensuring members of the public keep a 2m distance from fence in outdoor area.</p> <p>Bubbles Reduce the number of people in the setting to minimise the spread and create a 'bubble' of contacts.</p>	<p>Create a barrier between fence & field using garden stakes & tape/bunting.</p>	LR	Continuous	
		<p>No more than 16 children in the setting. Priority will be given to the children of critical workers, vulnerable children & those transitioning into primary school in September 2020.</p> <p>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-and-childcare-settings</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-early-years-and-childcare-settings-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-early-years-and-childcare-settings</p>	LR	28/05/2020	
		<p>Maintain core members of staff where practicable, keep the same staff and children in groups.</p>	LR	Continuous	
		<p>Children to only attend one setting. To inform parents in writing.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-early-years-and-childcare-settings-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-early-years-and-childcare-settings</p>	LR	28/05/2020	
	<p>Encouraging social distancing between children. It is acknowledged that maintaining 2m distance between preschool children is impossible, these</p>	<p>No visitors admitted to the setting. Parents & carers to drop off & collect children from the front door. Written information communicating this to the parents prior to reopening.</p>	All Staff LR	Continuous 28/05/2020	

	<p>measures can help to reduce the risk of infection.</p> <p>Whole group activities to be kept to a minimum.</p> <p>Seating at activities inside to be kept to a minimum.</p>	<p>Use outdoor area as much as practicable to reduce the spread of infection.</p> <p>Well ventilated rooms inside, windows open.</p> <p>Doorways between rooms to be left open to reduce contact with door handles.</p> <p>Seating at snack & lunch to be spaced at least 1m apart, depending on numbers this will have to be done in small groups. Children to be allowed to leave the table when they are finished.</p> <p>Staff to sit at the side of children to reduce face to face transmission.</p>	<p>All Staff</p> <p>All Staff</p> <p>All Staff</p> <p>All Staff</p> <p>All Staff</p>	<p>Continuous</p> <p>Continuous</p> <p>Continuous</p> <p>Continuous</p> <p>Continuous</p>	
<p>Increased risk of poor mental health.</p>	<p>Management will promote mental health & wellbeing awareness to staff during the Coronavirus outbreak and will offer whatever support they can to help</p> <p>Reference - https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/ www.hseni.gov.uk/stress</p>	<p>Regular communication of mental health information and open-door policy for those who need additional support.</p> <p>Increased frequency of supervision.</p>	<p>LR</p> <p>LR</p>	<p>Continuous</p> <p>Continuous</p>	