[](https://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.wlp-preschool.co.uk%2Fhome.html&psig=AOvVaw0hSNIiV0VuM_rUQbHUTsT8&ust=1589373792769000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAIQjRxqFwoTCICZ4vSsrukCFQAAAAAdAAAAABAE)

Procedures to minimise the risk of Covid-19 during the pandemic.

***These changes and adaptions have been put in place to keep all children, staff and families as safe as possible from Covid-19.***

This statement has been developed to ensure that staff, parents and carers work as a team to make minimise the risk of Covid-19 within the setting. It is paramount that WLP is a safe environment where children can learn, play and enjoy together.

To ensure that the environment is safe for all, adaptions to certain resources and ways that staff set up the pre-school have been considered, reflected on and reviewed. Here are some changes listed below.

**Strategies Westbrook Little People are following for a safer environment:**

Wash hands on entry and exit. This is to avoid germs in and out of the setting.

Soft furnishings to be cleaned weekly and sprayed with antibacterial spray between sessions.

Windows to be open as much as possible. This is to ensure a good fresh air flow throughout the setting.

Items from home to be kept in bags.

All children to enjoy a controlled snack time together. This is so we can monitor hand washing closely before and after eating and that the children only eat food from their own plate.

Encourage staff to wear a clean uniform daily.

If your child is sent home with symptoms, evidence of a negative test result will be required before return to the setting, this is to ensure the safety of our staff, children and their families.

Families and staff are to abide by Government policy regarding symptoms.

Children who have needed medicine such as Calpol should not attend the setting as this can mask Covid-19 symptoms.

Toys are to be washed regular, paying particular attention to role play food which is to be washed daily.

Westbrook Hall is a community building and is used by other users. The Westbrook Hall committee are registered with the Track and Trace system.

Although children no longer need to isolate if deemed a close contact, it is our duty of care to protect all children/staff. If a household member tests positive your child will be unable to attend setting for this period.

DfE guidance states that: “In exceptional cases, settings may decide to refuse a pupil if, in the setting's reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect those within the setting from possible infection with COVID-19 and the need outweighs the likely educational disruption.

“The decision would need to be carefully considered in light of all the circumstances, including the significant disruption to education throughout the pandemic and current public health advice.​”

**In the event of an outbreak:**

An outbreak is when there is at least 10% of staff and / or children who have tested positive for COVID-19 following a PCR test.

In the event of an outbreak of COVID-19 within the setting we will:

* Only open to key worker / essential worker children only (if ratios allow)
* Contact all parents
* Inform OFSTED, PHE, SFYC and RIDDOR
* Record the event

In the event of a preschool closure for children other than our children of key worker / essential workers, we will ensure that their learning and development is supported at home. We do this in many ways such as delivering work packs to homes, being in close communication with families via email, facebook messenger or telephone and also uploading individual plans onto Tapestry. We use facebook to upload activity ideas, staff will take turns to read stories daily and we will have daily song times – if families are not on Facebook these will be uploaded onto their Tapestry profiles.

*In the best interests of the children and their families, we also want to advise that reasonable adaptions and changes may be appropriate to adjusted the settings current policies and procedures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all. Also, if any Risk Assessments highlight that the children and staff at WLP are at risk, appropriate adaptions will be made This plan has had very careful consideration for all children, staff and their families. At WLP we want the best for everyone and ensuring that health and safety is put first is paramount. We need to work together to make sure that all staff and families who are associated with WLP are safe. In the unfortunate and unlikely event that there is an outbreak of COVID-19 within the setting then the relevant public health advice will be followed. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.*

**Further reading:**

**OUR PLAN TO REBUILD: The UK Government’s COVID-19 recovery strategy - HM Government**

**The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child – UNICEF UK**

**Health and Safety at Work act 1974 – legislation.gov.uk**

**Guidance**

**Coronavirus (COVID-19): implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings – DfE**

**Contingency framework: education and childcare settings – Department for Education August 2021**