

The Acorn Nursery School

Outbreak Management Plan (Covid-19)

Measures to prevent the spread of infection

Since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic, we have been pleased with our Safe Operating Procedures and the adaptations we have made to our everyday practice to ensure we offered, and continue to offer, our staff and children a safe environment. Hygiene, fresh air and social distancing remain the key elements of infection prevention and control. We have made the decision to keep the following procedures in place

- Any child, staff member, parent or visitor with Coronavirus symptoms must not attend nursery and must follow the current Public Health (PH) guidelines.
- Children should not attend nursery if a member of their household tests positive.
- Children will not be accepted into nursery if they have been given fever reducing medication, at parent's discretion. Children with temperatures, whether Covid related or not, cannot return until they have been 24 hours fever free, without the need of medication to reduce the fever, in line with PH/DfE guidelines.
- Any person displaying symptoms must not return to nursery until they have completed the required isolation period and/or received a negative coronavirus test, in line with the new government guidelines.
- Increased cleaning processes remain in place.
- Team members continue to socially distance from each other and during parent handovers.
- Bubble systems are relaxed for the staff teams, to ensure legal ratios continue to be met.
- Parents and staff members will wear masks during drop off and collection at nursery.
- Staff members will wear masks when they are moving between rooms at the nursery.
- Staff members carry out regular Lateral Flow Device testing, minimum, twice weekly
- Ventilation is a key part of infection control, doors and windows remain open and outdoor play is actively encouraged.
- No Acorns parent should come into the foyer at drop off, we have staff there to help with coats and handwashing. Acorns foyer is very small.
- Only 4 Catkins parents should be in their foyer at drop-off.
- No Catkins parents should come into the classroom. If a child is unhappy a member of staff will support the child & parent in our nursery garden
- All persons travelling outside of the UK must adhere to instructions and testing in line with the government guidance

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Management of an Outbreak of COVID-19 in a nursery setting

When the nursery infection cases of children or staff members reach 2 or more in either room over a 14-day period this may be referred to as a COVID-19 outbreak. The Acorn Nursery School will take further advice from Public Health England (PHE). Actions may be:

- A more intense deep clean
- Restrictions of people entering the nursery building
- Partial closure of areas in the nursery
- Isolation of identified children or staff members
- Investigation by the LA Health Protection Team

Management of a Cluster in a nursery setting

When there are increased nursery infection cases of children or staff members that are concentrated in one bubble group at a nursery setting over a 14-day period this may be referred to as a COVID-19 cluster. The Acorn Nursery School will take further advice from PHE. The actions we will take are:

- Look at the possible need to close the bubble group
- As current guidance does not request that nursery settings isolate and close bubble groups, we are instructing all staff members connected with a positive case to take daily Lateral Flow tests for 10 days
- Any person contacted by NHS Track and Trace must isolate in accordance with government guidance
- The Acorn Nursery School use their extended staff teams to ensure legal ratios continue to be met
- There will remain a Safeguarding Lead, Named First Aider and Named Manager on site at all times.

Reaction to high infection rates in the local community

If contacted by PH or the Local Authority regarding a high level of infection in the local community the following actions may be recommended:

- Trips and outings in the area are limited or stopped completely for all children
- Events and social days at the nurseries are cancelled
- Visitors are not permitted into the nursery buildings unless essential to a child's development or wellbeing or to manage an essential need (i.e. site maintenance). Any visitors that are permitted on site must wear full PPE and give their details to allow The Acorn Nursery School to manage contact tracing if needed.

Actions following high levels of risk and infection

Attendance restrictions will only be used as a last resort. Our requests would be presented in the following order:

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- If you are able to keep your child at home, please do so.
- Only vulnerable children and those whose parents are critical workers may attend.
- Only vulnerable children and those with both parents as critical workers may attend.

We thank you for adhering to our Safe Operating Procedures and Risk Assessments and for taking the time to read this Outbreak Management Plan.

If you have any questions, you can always contact Pauline Crowder (Head of Nursery) or Suzanne Sandell (Nursery Manager).

This Policy will be updated as new guidance is issued, correct as 12/01/2022

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