

LITTLE FINGERS PRE-SCHOOL

COVID-19 OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Introduction

This plan is based on the contingency framework for managing local outbreaks of COVID-19, provided by the Department for Education (DfE).

We implement measures in this plan in response to recommendations provided by our local authority (LA), the director of public health (DsPH), Public Health England (PHE) our local health protection teams or by following Government guidance.

These measures will be implemented to help prevent the spread of infection within the pre-school setting, to manage a COVID-19 outbreak or cluster, to react to high COVID-19 infection rates in the community or when all measures in place are still failing to reduce risk and infection.

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 and social distancing remain the two 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 pre-school and must isolate at home.
- Children will not be accepted into pre-school if they have been given fever reducing medication, at parent's discretion, after 4am on the day of their session (after 10am for afternoon sessions).
- Any person displaying symptoms must not return to pre-school until they have completed the required isolation period and/or received a negative coronavirus test, in line with Government guidelines. Children with temperatures cannot return until they have been 24 hours fever free, without the need of medication to assist, in line with PH DfE guidelines.
- Increased cleaning processes remain in place.
- Staff continue to socially distance from each other and during parent handovers.
- Staff members will wear face coverings during drop off and collection at pre-school.
- Parents will be asked to wear a face covering at drop off and collection at pre-school.
- Staff members carry out Lateral Flow Device testing twice a week (due for review by PH, DfE end January 2022).
- Ventilation is a key part of infection control, doors and windows remain open and outdoor play is encouraged.

- Please refer to our Safe Operating Procedures for further actions Little Fingers Pre-school have in place to reduce any risk of infection and illness.

Management of an Outbreak of COVID-19

When the pre-school infection cases of children or staff members reach 10% in a pre-school setting over a 14 day period this may be referred to as a COVID-19 outbreak. Little Fingers Pre-school will take further advice from PHE. Actions may be:

- A more intense deep clean
- Closure the pre-school
- Isolation of identified children or staff members
- Investigation by the LA Health Protection Team

Management of a Cluster in a pre-school setting

When there are increased pre-school infection cases of children or staff members over a 14-day period this may be referred to as a COVID-19 cluster. Little Fingers Pre-school will take further advise from PHE. The actions we will take are:

- Look at the possible need to close
- As current guidance does not request that pre-school settings isolate, 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 to Government guidance
- Little Fingers Pre-school 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

Little Fingers Pre-school Pre-school ensure that they are up to date with local infection records. If contacted by DsPH or the LA 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 at the pre-school are cancelled
- Visitors are not permitted onto the pre-school site unless essential to a child's development or well being or to manage an essential need (ie. site maintenance).

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:

- If you are able to keep your child home to 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.

Little Fingers Pre-school wish to remain transparent in all proposed actions and advice that we receive from any of the above-mentioned professionals. 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 Little Fingers Pre-school's Manager Miss Leanne Shuttleworth at manager.lfpreschool@btinternet.com

Date: 4th January 2022	Previous: - 11th November 2021	Review: 31st January 2022
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