



We aim to ensure every child in the community feels equally welcomed, valued and respected.

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Dear parents/carers

### Coronavirus update

We have had a few parents contacting us this week to find out if their child should come in to pre-school if they have symptoms of a cold. The guidance for schools is that we should: **Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.**

This means that children with Covid-19 symptoms should not be in school until they have had a test with a negative result.

According to the NHS:

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

If your child displays these symptoms in pre-school you will be asked to come and collect them. If they show them at home then they should not be sent in.

If your child is displaying different symptoms to that of Coronavirus, e.g. a runny nose, then we would ask that you phone NHS 111 for advice or your own GP, before you send your child into pre-school.

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

- Get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible.
- Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get the test result – only leave your home to have a test.

- Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get the result.

You can book a test here:

<https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>

If you are at all unsure what to do then ring NHS 111 or use the NHS 111 online <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>

If someone in your household has Covid-19 symptoms they should self isolate for 10 days or until they have had a negative test result. If someone in your household tests positive for Covid-19 they should self-isolate for 10 days and all other members of the household should self isolate for 14 day. Please see the guidance below for more details.

If your child or anyone else in your household tests positive for Coronavirus, you must inform the pre-school immediately, we are require to inform our local authority and Ofsted of any positive cases within the pre-school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

We do appreciate that these rules will lead to some children missing some sessions in pre-school apparently unnecessarily, but we must follow the government directive and do everything we can to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in our community.

We would also like to make you aware that members of staff will be following the same rules, as set out above. Due to us all having our own families at home, this could mean that a few members of staff might be self-isolating at the same time. If we do not have enough staff to keep the pre-school operating normal sessions, we may need to close. Please note we will only close if it is absolutely necessary.

If any staff member tests positive for Coronavirus, you will be informed via the pre-school app. Due to the pre-school staff and children all being in one bubble, we will close for 10 days.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Kind regards

Jackie Standen, Anne May and Claire Rodgers