

Critical Incident – COVID 19

Recovery Update May 2020

At Atherton House Nursery we understand we need to plan for all eventualities to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all the children we care for. With this in mind, we have a critical incident policy in place to ensure our nursery is able to operate effectively in the case of a critical incident.

This includes

- National outbreaks of infection/health pandemics – (such as COVID 19).

National outbreaks of infection/Health Pandemics

In the event of the national outbreak of the COVID 19 health pandemic we have followed the Government health advice and guidance, legal advice and advice from our insurance provider.

This guidance has informed our :
COVID 19 Recovery Operational Plan,
COVID 19 Recovery Risk Assessment and
COVID 19 Recovery Appendix to Staff Handbook.

We have remained open for Key Worker and Vulnerable children from the commencement of lockdown, and will be having further children return from Monday, 1st June, in line with Government guidance.

We will continue to follow all regularly updated advice and implement measures to ensure that risks to vulnerable children and staff are minimised.

This includes excluding infected children/staff/parents or family members from the setting for a set period of time to prevent the spread of infection.

Our decisions have been made in consultation with parents, staff, legal advice and our insurance provider.

Each case will be reviewed on an individual basis.

Infection Control

COVID 19 update – May 2020

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| EYFS: 3.44, 3.45, 3.46 |
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At Atherton House Nursery we promote the good health of all children attending through maintaining high hygiene standards and reducing the chances of infection being spread. We follow the health protection in schools and other childcare facilities guidance¹ which sets out when and how long children need to be excluded from settings, when treatment/medication is required and where to get further advice from.

Viruses and infections can be easily passed from person to person by breathing in air containing the virus which is produced when an infected person talks, coughs or sneezes. It can also spread through hand/face contact after touching a person or surface contaminated with viruses.

We follow the guidance below to prevent a virus or infection from spreading around the nursery. Our staff will abide by our COVID 19 Operational Plan, Risk assessment and Policy:

These documents encourage staying in our phase group room, avoiding contact with other groups, avoiding communal areas, using allocated outdoor space often and cleaning more regularly.

- Encourage all children to use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch germs
- Ensure all tissues are disposed of in a hygienic way and all children and staff wash their hands once the tissue is disposed of
- Develop children's understanding of the above and the need for good hygiene procedures in helping them to stay healthy
- Wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when changing nappies, toileting children and dealing with any other bodily fluids (Apron and Gloves). Staff are requested to dispose of these in the appropriate manner and wash hands immediately
- Clean and sterilise all potties and changing mats before and after each use
- Clean toilets at least three times daily and check them throughout the day
- Remind children to wash their hands before eating, after visiting the toilet, playing outside or being in contact with any animal and explain the reasons for this
- Clean all COVID 19 selected toys, equipment and resources on a more regular basis – 4 times/day - by following a comprehensive cleaning rota and using antibacterial cleanser, or through washing in the washing machine
- Wash or clean all equipment used by babies and toddlers as and when needed, including when the children have placed it in their mouth
- Store dummies in individual hygienic dummy boxes labelled with the child's name to prevent cross-contamination with other children
- Store toothbrushes (where applicable) hygienically to prevent cross-contamination

- Immediately clean and sterilise (where necessary) any dummy or bottle that falls on the floor or is picked up by another child
- Provide labelled individual bedding for children that is not used by any other child and wash this at least once a week – and store apart
- Keep parents dropping off/collecting children at the allocated door, following the external social distance marks
- In exceptional cases - ask parents of children weening, to remove all outdoor footwear, or use shoe covers, when entering rooms where children may be crawling or sitting on the floor
- Follow the sickness and illness policy when children are ill to prevent the spread of any infection in the nursery. Staff are also requested to stay at home if they are contagious.

In addition:

- The nursery manager retains the right of refusal of all children, parents, staff and visitors who are deemed contagious and may impact on the welfare of the rest of the nursery
- Parents will be made aware of the need for these procedures in order for them to follow these guidelines whilst in the nursery
- Rooms will be deep cleaned following COVID 19 guidance, including carpets and soft furnishings to ensure the spread of infection is limited.
- In the event of an infection outbreak the nursery will, where appropriate, undertake a deep clean to ensure the spread of infection is contained in line with COVID 19 guidance
- We will follow any the Government health guidance on COVID 19 and the recovery process, as well as legal advice and our information from our insurers on this national outbreak of the COVID 19 pandemic and keep parents informed of any course of action. Each specific circumstances will differ and to ensure we take the most appropriate action we will treat each case on an individual basis.
- We fully adopt government guidance for all visitors to minimise risk of further spreading the risk of infection of COVID 19
- The nursery will ensure stocks of tissues, hand washing equipment, cleaning materials and sterilising fluid are maintained at all times
- staff training will be refreshed in line with COVID 19 recovery.

| This policy was adopted on | Signed on behalf of the nursery | Date for review |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| [Insert date] | | [Insert date] |