**Infection control following Covid**

**We will continue to implement our infection control policy, through maintaining high hygiene standards and reducing the chances of infection being spread.**

In addition to this we will:

* Implement robust hand washing routines with extra stations, where possible. Hands will be washed thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap, and dried thoroughly, or use alcohol hand rub/sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered
* Clean hands on arrival at the setting, before and after eating, and after sneezing or coughing
* Encourage staff and, where age/stage appropriate, children not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose (consider face washing with children where appropriate)
* Ensure good respiratory hygiene - use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste; promoting the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach for all staff and children
* Ensure that help is available for children who have trouble cleaning their hands independently
* Encourage young children to learn and practise these habits through games, songs and repetition
* Ensure that bins for tissues are emptied throughout the day
* Clean frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents and bleach (including surfaces that children are touching, such as toys, books, tables, chairs, doors, sinks; wiping down toilets after each use, light switches, bannisters)
* Where possible, ensure spaces are well ventilated using natural ventilation (opening windows) or ventilation units
* Prop doors open, where safe to do so (bearing in mind fire safety and safeguarding), to limit use of door handles and aid ventilation
* Take steps to ensure symptomatic individuals do not attend nursery
* Minimise contact and mixing as much as possible (such as by staggered break/meal times and keeping different rooms and ages of children separate where possible)
* Ensure play equipment is appropriately cleaned between groups of children using it and that multiple groups do not use it simultaneously.

**Children’s temperatures**

Routine testing of children’s temperatures will take placeeach morning. We remind parents and staff to follow national advice on Covid-19 symptoms. We ask all staff and parents to follow government advice if anyone in their household displays any symptoms.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

If a child has a high temperature whilst at nursery, parents will be called immediately. The child will be cared for in a separate room from the other children and the staff member will, in these cases, wear a face covering to minimise the spread of infection.

**Vaccine**

Vaccines may cause a mild fever in children. This is a common and expected reaction, and isolation is not required unless coronavirus (COVID-19) is suspected.

**Teething**

Whilst teething can cause some known side effects such as flushed cheeks and sore gums, NHS guidelines state that fever is not a symptom of teething.

Parents and carers should monitor side effects from a vaccination or teething, and if they are concerned about their child’s health they should seek advice from their GP or NHS 111.

If coronavirus (COVID-19) is suspected, settings should follow the isolation advice.

**Travelling to nursery** – Parents, children and young people are encouraged to travel by car, walk or cycle where possible and avoid public transport at peak times.