

Managing Covid-19 Policy

Policy

The policy provides details of the conditions and considerations that ensure that we minimise the risk of transmission of coronavirus and is in addition to the current policies in place at the nursery. The full policies and procedures are available during the nursery day and can be provided by email upon request.

The government continues to manage the risk of serious illness from the spread of coronavirus, whilst prioritising essential services that include education and childcare. As a childcare provider we are now directed to deliver face-to-face, high-quality education and childcare to all children. The evidence is clear that being out of education and childcare causes significant harm to educational attainment, life chances, mental and physical health.

We operate under guidance from the Department for Education that direct clinical risks of coronavirus to children are extremely low, and every adult has been offered a first vaccine and the opportunity for two doses of vaccine by mid-September 2021

Procedure

Public Health Threat - Local or National outbreak

Any measures in restricting education or childcare settings are likely to be taken only as a last resort and will be enacted with the minimum required impact. Restrictions may be taken as a result of the risk at a national or local level accordingly, using the [contingency framework](#) principles for managing local outbreaks of COVID-19 in education and childcare settings. Local authorities, directors of public health and PHE health protection teams can recommend measures described in the contingency framework in individual education and childcare settings - or a small cluster of settings - as part of their outbreak management responsibilities. In such circumstances, we work with the appropriate authorities in selecting the appropriate measures for our specific circumstance.

Risk assessment

Health and Safety law will be applied in full and we will with proportionate control measures implemented, with risk assessments regularly reviewed and updated.

The risk assessments are available during the nursery day and can be provided by email upon request.

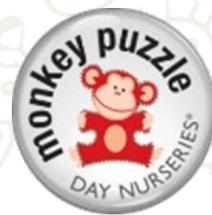
Safer systems of work

This policy outlines our approach in providing a safe environment for children and adults, describing the adjustments we make to aspects of the nursery, it's environment and the tasks carried out as part of a normal nursery day.

These have all been carefully reviewed to ensure effective infection protection and control using the following to substantially reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus:

- Children, staff and other adults should not come into the nursery if they have [symptoms of coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).
- Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
 - cleaning hands more often than usual - wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and dry them thoroughly or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered





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- ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
 - Use of personal protective equipment (PPE) where required or by personal choice of the individual
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents.
 - Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
 - Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Vulnerable individuals

Children who are clinically extremely vulnerable

All children who are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) can attend their setting unless they have been advised by their clinician or other specialist not to attend. Children who are CEV will be cared for in accordance with their specific care plan, which will be regularly reviewed for its suitability.

Staff who are clinically extremely vulnerable staff and children

Clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) people are advised, as a minimum, to follow the same guidance as everyone else. It is important that everyone adheres to this guidance, but CEV people may wish to think particularly carefully about the additional precautions they can continue to take. Our nursery will explain the measures we have in place to keep CEV staff safe at work. Further information can be found in the [guidance on protecting people who are CEV from COVID-19](#).

Mixing groups - 'Bubbles'

We are no longer required to keep groups apart as much as possible, and we have returned to operating without 'bubbles'.

Due to the local level risk it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' to keep groups apart for a temporary period, to reduce the spread of infection. Any decision to do this would not be taken lightly as we would carefully balance the impact this could have on the delivery of education and childcare for the children.

Children and staff travelling from abroad

We acknowledge that families, and staff will travel outside of the UK. We require that all children, parents, and staff travelling to England adhere to [travel legislation](#), details of which are set out in [red, amber and green list rules for entering England](#).

When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test

If anyone in our nursery develops [symptoms of coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#), however mild, they will be sent home and directed to follow public health advice. For everyone with symptoms, they should avoid using public transport and, wherever possible, be collected by a member of their family or household.

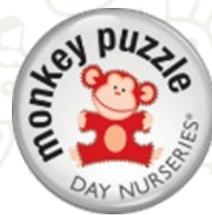
Where a child is awaiting collection, appropriate PPE should be used if close contact is necessary. Further information on this can be found in [use of PPE in education, childcare and children's social care](#). Any rooms they have used should be cleaned once they have left.

The household (including any siblings) should follow PHE's [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#).

Testing - Confirmatory polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests

As guided by Public Health England or in response to a positive Lateral Flow Test a Polymerase Chain Reaction Test (PCR) test will be required in-line with [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#).





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While awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate.

If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive rapid lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the rapid lateral flow test and they can return to the nursery, as long as the individual does not present COVID-19 symptoms.

[Welcoming children back to the setting](#)

A child with symptoms should not attend the setting, given the potential risk to others. We may take the decision to refuse attendance if, in our judgement, it is necessary to protect other children and staff from possible infection with COVID-19. These decisions will be taken carefully consulting with current public health guidance and advice.

[Our regulator - Ofsted](#)

We must notify Ofsted, our regulator, of any confirmed cases in the setting, whether a child or a staff member. If we have been instructed or decided to close the nursery we will inform them, within 14 days, in accordance with our legal requirement as set out in paragraph 3.51 of the [statutory framework for the early years foundation stage](#).

Ofsted have resumed their inspections and their full powers to investigate have returned. If you have any concerns or complaints about the nursery that you feel we can't address, they can be contacted at enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk or 0300 123 4666.

[Supplies](#)

The nursery will require key supplies such as food, cleaning items, and personal protective equipment and a supplier network has been established to ensure that these essential supplies reach the nursery. These essential items will be purchased in sufficient quantity and with regularity to ensure ample stock is available on site. Where an unforeseen disruption to nursery supplies occurs, the Monkey Puzzle Day Nurseries group will support in sourcing the required items from alternative suppliers or in emergencies from within the nursery group itself.

The delivery of supplies will be carefully managed with an approach that suits the nursery's particular circumstances and that ensures appropriate physical distancing and hygiene measures are maintained when on nursery premises.

[Linked Policies](#)

Managing Health and illness Policy

