



COVID-19 Policy

Statement of intent

Little Gregs Pre-school believes that the safety of staff, children and parents is of paramount importance. This policy will assist staff in addressing coronavirus (COVID-19) within the setting.

The guidance is as set by the government and is applicable from 24th February 2022.

On 21st February the Prime Minister set out the next phase of the Government's COVID-19 response. COVID-19 continues to be a virus that we learn to live with and the imperative to reduce disruption to children's education remains.

Aim

We aim to make staff, parents, and children aware of health and safety issues and to minimise the hazards and risks to enable the children to thrive in a healthy and safe environment. Reducing the risk of transmission of coronavirus.

We have an outbreak plan in place outlining how we would operate if we need to take extra measures in exceptional circumstances. This plan is in place to support staff and parents.

Methods

In managing single cases and clusters of COVID-19, as well as how we should operate if we are required to reintroduce measures/mitigations to prevent transmission of COVID-19 if there is an outbreak either in the setting or within the local area. Our Outbreak Plan Management will be put into action.

Control Measures

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents.
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

As a setting we will ensure all staff understand the 'control measures' and how they will apply them within the setting. Parents and Carers will be made aware of the 'control measures' and how they can support the setting by following this covid-19 policy and outbreak plan.

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.

Hand hygiene

Covid-19 is an easy virus to kill when it is on skin. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser. Children will clean their hands regularly:

- When they arrive at the setting
- When they return from breaks
- When they change rooms

- Before and after eating
- After using the bathroom
- When they leave the setting to go home

Staff working between rooms will wash their hands before entering the room.

Staff will sanitise their hands before entering and leaving the pre-school. Staff will wash their hand with soap and water throughout the day.

Visitors will be able to sanitise their hands before entering, throughout and leaving the pre-school.

Respiratory hygiene

The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach will be encouraged throughout the pre-school.



Posters are displayed around the setting and staff will encourage the children 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.

Tissues will be available around the pre-school.

Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)

The staff in the setting will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work.

What PPE to wear when caring for a symptomatic individual

- Fluid-resistant surgical face masks (also known as Type IIR)
- Disposable gloves
- Disposable plastic aprons
- Eye protection (for example, a face visor or goggles)

How much PPE you need to wear when caring for someone with symptoms of COVID-19 depends on how much contact you have.

A face mask should be worn if you are in face-to-face contact.

If physical contact is necessary, then gloves, an apron and a face mask should be worn.

Wear eye protection if a risk assessment determines that there is a risk of fluids entering the eye, for example, from coughing, spitting, or vomiting.

When PPE is used, it is essential that it is used properly. This includes scrupulous hand hygiene and following guidance on how to put PPE on and take it off safely in order to reduce self-contamination.



Face masks should:

- Cover both the nose and mouth
- Not be allowed to dangle around the neck
- Not be touched once put on, except when carefully removed before disposal
- Be changed when they become moist or damaged
- Be worn once and then discarded
- hands should be cleaned after disposal

2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents.

The pre-school has a daily cleaning schedule in place. This ensures regular cleaning of areas and equipment 3 times a day with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces. Staff sign the enhanced cleaning sheet to confirm it has been cleaned.

The pre-school undergoes a big clean at the end of each day by the pre-school caretaker.

3.Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.

All staff will ensure the pre-school is well ventilated with full fresh air and ensure that a comfortable environment is maintained.

Windows will be opened at the start of the day and closed at the end of the day. Doors will not be opened without adult supervision as we need to ensure children are kept safe.

4.Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

When a staff member or child develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test

All staff, child and other adults should follow the guidance on

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts>

Little Greg's Pre-School has a duty to protect other children and staff from possible infection of COVID-19. If your child has symptoms or have a confirmed case of COVID-19, we will refuse to take your child, while they are ill.

If a child becomes ill while at pre-school, a parent will be call to collect them.

Symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough or worsening of a cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste



Asymptomatic testing

From 21st February 2022, staff in early year's settings will not be expected to continue taking part in regular asymptomatic testing. In the event of an outbreak, all staff will be advised by management to test for a period of time.

Face coverings

Face coverings are no longer advised to be worn by staff and visitors.

If the setting has an outbreak, face coverings will be temporarily worn in communal areas, **unless exempt.**

Children and staff travelling from abroad

All parents (with children) and staff travelling to England must adhere to government travel advice <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-to-england-from-another-country-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Parents travelling abroad should bear in mind the impact on their child's education which may result from any requirement to quarantine or isolate upon return to the setting.

Vaccination

All Little Greg's Staff are encouraged to take up the offer of the vaccine. More information can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine/>

Reporting COVID-19 cases to Ofsted and Public Health

From 21st February 2022, **we are no longer required to notify Ofsted.**

We will continue to notify public health and Warwickshire Early Years.

Staying in touch with parents or carers whose children are at home.

All children should be able to attend as normal, with exception of those children who may still have to self-isolate.

We will provide children who are in isolation with support if required. The child's key person will plan activities for the child to do at home. Online zoom sessions will be held with the key person and peers to help maintain contact with the setting and continue to develop positive relationships.

Parents and Carers may find the following useful while at home.

- Hungry Little Minds - provides simple fun, activities for kids aged 0 to 5 for parents to do at home with children to support their early learning
- BBC Tiny Happy People - activities for babies, toddlers, and children
- Words for Life



- Help children aged 2 to 4 to learn at home: coronavirus (COVID-19)

New admissions

We have our virtual tour available on our website and Facebook page. Parents/carers who are keen to visit in person the following measures will be followed:

- Wash hands before and after the visit.
- Visit the pre-school after hours, and strict social distancing will be observed.

Parents settling children.

Parents and carers are able to enter the setting to help their child adapt to their new environment. Parents and carers must:

- Wash hands before and after the visit
- stay for a limited amount of time (ideally not more than an hour)
- avoid close contact with other children.
- are aware of the control measures, how this impacts them, and their responsibilities in supporting it when visiting a setting with their child.

Visits by parents/carers

In-person visits can take place with the agreement of pre-school manager if they are necessary, the first preferred option would be remote visits or meeting. The following measures will be followed:

- Wash hands before and after the visit.
- Visit the pre-school after hours, and strict social distancing will be observed.



This policy was written in line with 'The UK Government's Action for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

www.gov.uk

Public Health Warwickshire Toolkit

Written by: Sarah Wilkes, Pre-school Manager. 1st June 2020

Reviewed in line with Government guidance and Public Health: 16th November 2021.

Reviewed in line with Government guidance November 2021.

Reviewed in line with Government guidance December 2021

Reviewed in line with Public Health: 4th January 2022

Reviewed in line with Government temporarily changes: 11th January 2022.

Reviewed in line with Government Guidance: 17th January 2022.

Reviewed in line with Government Guidance: 27th January 2022

Reviewed in line with Government Guidance: February 2022

