

HAPPY HEDGEHOGS LTD

Promoting health and hygiene

4.7 COVID-19

Policy statement

About Covid-19

Covid-19 is a new strain of Coronavirus and has caused a pandemic. It affects the lungs and airways and the symptoms can range from mild to severe and can in some cases be fatal. The main symptoms are a temperature and/or new continuous cough and new guidelines have also stated possible loss of taste and smell.

The virus can be spread through contact with an infected person either through sneezing or coughing (respiratory secretions) or by touching a surface or object that has been contaminated with respiratory secretions.

This policy will set out the measures that Happy Hedgehogs will put into place and the steps we will take to minimise the risk of the spread of infection following government and health and safety guidelines. This policy is for the protection of all staff, children, parents and families at Happy Hedgehogs.

We are aware of the dangers of being exposed to Covid-19 and will do our very best to ensure the safety of every single person that enters our setting.

Throughout the pandemic we will continue to keep you up to date with all the government guidance.

Procedures to minimise the risk of the spread of infection.

We will be asking parents to drop their child off at the front outside area where a member of staff will greet you to take your children inside, this will help minimise the risk of bringing infection into the setting. We ask that whilst outside at drop off time and pick up time you maintain a 2 metre distance from everyone, face coverings are to be worn by parents/carers whilst dropping off and

collecting their child. Only one parent/carer to bring and collect their child and where possible do not bring siblings onto the site.

Parents and visitors will not be permitted into the building. In the event of new children attending for settling in sessions, one parent will be allowed in the garden area or if the weather does not permit this it will be in a separate room where the parent can meet the child's key person keeping within the social distancing measures. The parent will be required to use hand sanitiser. This meeting will be limited to 30 minutes.

A one way system has been put into place within the school grounds, on arrival, please walk up the school path through the wooden gate and then wait outside the front area, on leaving please walk down the main drive, signs will be in place to guide you.

Please ensure you arrive at the correct time. Sir John Moore School will have staggered times to help reduce the amount of people on site. You are required to maintain the 2 metre distance at all times. Please also note that unless you have a blue badge or permit from the Foundation, parking on the grounds is strictly prohibited.

The staff will follow strict hygiene measures when arriving at the setting and will continue throughout the day. Clean uniforms will be worn each day and we also ask that children wear clean clothes each day. Staff will also adhere to the 2 metre distance between them where possible. Children will be encouraged to wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and paper towels will be used to dry hands and will be placed straight into the bin upon arrival and at regular intervals during the day and also before leaving the setting. Hand sanitiser will also be available in all rooms and outside.

Frequent strict cleaning routines will be adhered to throughout the day which will include disinfecting surfaces, door handles, light switches, furniture and toys. Rigorous checks will be made by management throughout the day to ensure procedures are followed and a thorough clean will take place at the end of each day. Any materials that we deem difficult to clean will be removed.

All children will be reminded to catch coughs and sneezes into tissue which will be placed straight into the bin, followed by strict handwashing.

All children will be escorted to the toilet one at a time and will be encouraged to wash their hands and the toilet will be wiped with anti bacterial wipes after each use.

We will try and implement safe social distancing as well as we can but as you can imagine small children may find it difficult to understand why they cannot sit as close to their peers as they normally could, also children may need comforting.

Staff ratios will still be maintained in accordance with the EYFS.

Staff will continue to maintain the children's learning journeys and will still carry out observations, however, our main priority is keeping the children as safe as possible and ensuring their time at Happy Hedehogs is a happy and positive experience under the current circumstances.

If you wish to discuss anything regarding your child can you ensure that this is done by telephone, email or on our closed facebook messenger group, this will help limit the contact with staff.

Please make sure you apply sunscreen before attending in the morning and ensure your child has a sun hat.

Children will not be permitted to bring in items from home, the only exception will be a dummy or comforter if really needed and please ensure these are cleaned daily.

If you usually provide nappies, wipes or creams, can you label them and bring these in plastic bags that can be disposed of and ensure there is enough to last.

If a child becomes unwell during the day with any symptoms associated with Covid-19 they will immediately be isolated and parents will be called to collect their child. A staff member will stay with the child and will be required to wear PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) which will include gloves, apron and face mask.

If Covid-19 is suspected the child must self isolate for 10 days and the rest of their household should also isolate for 10 days. We strongly advise contacting the NHS 111 service and arrange a test. If the test is negative your child will be able to return and isolation can end.

If a test is positive the rest of the setting should be sent home and advised to self isolate for 10 days, the household members of this wider group do not need to self isolate unless the child they live with in that group develops symptoms. This guidance also refers to staff members. If there is only one bubble within the setting then the setting will need to close for 10 days.

Anyone already self isolating or are showing symptoms of Covid-19 should not attend the setting.

Most children originally identified as clinically extremely vulnerable no longer need to avoid attending unless a GP or Specialist has confirmed that the child should not attend. Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable should still attend the setting.

Staff who have received a notification from the government confirming that they should be shielding will not need to attend work and may be entitled to Statutory Sick Pay (SSP).

Parents must ensure that they report any absences as early as possible.

Our usual policies and procedures will be followed for other illnesses and/or accidents.

Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club will resume normal hours from 24th August 2020. Nursery hours will now change to full time hours.

Further guidance

- <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Guidance for educational settings

- <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/education-and-childcare>

Guidance for parents

This policy was adopted at a meeting of

Happy Hedgehogs LTD

Held on

July 2020

Date to be reviewed

July 2021

Name of signatory

Carly Turner

Role of signatory

Director