

St Catharine's Under Fives Covid-19 2020 Policy

Statement of intent

To provide an environment that welcomes children back to the setting following Government enforced lockdown relating to Covid-19 2020 with effect from 1st June 2020.

Aim

To provide an environment that is welcoming to the children and families, whilst following Government guidance to make the setting as safe as possible with regards to limiting virus transmission between service users.

Methods

- Service users will not be permitted to enter the site if they are knowingly currently infected with or symptomatic of Covid-19. This includes staff, parents or children.
- Other than staff and parents, no visitors are allowed entry to the setting, with the exception of essential maintenance which should be planned to be carried out outside of operating hours.
- Parents are advised not to use public transport to arrive at playgroup, but instead should walk, cycle or arrive by car.
- Parents are asked to sign a declaration that they will not allow a child to attend the setting if the child is showing symptoms of Covid-19, nor should a parent drop their child to the setting if they themselves are symptomatic.
- Parents are informed of necessary changes to routine, opening times, collection procedures, and any other information deemed necessary in a factual and timely manner.
- No more than 15 children will be accepted into the setting on any day, and these children will be separated into smaller groups with one practitioner ("Bubbles") in line with Adult: Child ratios,
- "Bubbles" will not be allowed to mix or share resources to prevent the risk of cross contamination between "bubbles".
- Robust handwashing routines will be followed for all staff and children. Hands will be washed using soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds on entry to the setting, before and after eating, after using the toilet and regularly throughout the day.
- Regular cleaning of all hard surfaces such as tables and chairs, all toys that are in circulation, any touch points such as door handles and light switches, toilets and hand sinks.
- Children will be encouraged to play independently and not share resources, whilst maintain a 2m distance, however, the Government recognises this will be very difficult and accept that such young children do not know how to "social distance". Therefore, this will be encouraged but not strictly enforced if in doing so will cause distress to the children involved or others in the setting.
- Snack preparation will be carried out by a member of staff who holds a current food hygiene certificate, in the kitchen away from the children. Children will not be allowed to handle or share food that is not their own.
- If any service user develops symptoms of Covid-19 they will be moved to an area of at least 2m from other services users. Symptomatic staff will be immediately sent home. Symptomatic children's parents will be contacted immediately.
- Full PPE of face mask, visor, apron, and gloves will be available for, and should be worn by any member of staff who is attending to a symptomatic child.

- Should a service user receive a positive result to a Covid-19 test the manager of the setting will contact the Local Authority for advice on how to proceed.

Guidance to assist professionals

As COVID-19 has only been recently identified, guidance to support professionals is regularly being updated or published. Therefore, daily government email updates should be checked for changes to recommendations for practise.

Associated documents:

St Catharine's Under Fives Covid-19 2020 Procedures