INFECTION AND CONTROL GUIDANCE POLICY

Welfare requirement 3.44 and 3.51

Updated by Rachel Traczyk
10th June 2021

This policy promotes the health and safety of children in our care and the staff who care for them.

Included in this policy is:

- Children and staff with an infectious illness
- Coronavirus Procedures and Questions
- General Cleaning

Guidance

- Guidance on infection and control in schools and other childcare settings by Public Health

INFECTUS ILLNESS

Children and Staff with an infectious illness

Management Responsibilities

- To make sure that a child or staff with an infectious illness does not attend the setting for any applicable exclusion period set out in the Exclusion Table (Illness, Diseases and Exclusions Policy).
- Report any notifiable diseases to the relevant childcare regulatory body listed on the Exclusion Table as soon as possible or within 14 days of becoming aware of the diagnosis.
- Communicate non-notifiable infectious illness to families without disclosing child/staff name.
- To provide staff with an appropriate communication for families regarding the notifiable disease in the setting.
- Not to give any medical advice but refer parents/carers to the applicable NHS choices webpage and seeking advice by calling 111.

Staff Responsibilities

- Notify management if you or a child in your care has a suspected infectious illness, as soon as possible.
- Comply with all requirements in the Illness, Diseases and Exclusions Policy and the Exclusions Table.

Parent Responsibilities

- If you suspect your child has an infectious illness, they must not attend the setting. Please inform the Manager as soon as possible.
- Exclusion periods are set out on the Exclusion Table by Public Health - this can be found on our website (virtual noticeboard) or in your Welcome Booklet.

CORONAVIRUS PROCEDURES

Management Responsibilities

To ensure that:

- The team are trained to recognise the signs on COVID-19
- COVID procedures are being maintained and policies updated and reviewed regularly
- Parents and staff are kept up to date in procedures and to encourage at home testing.
- The nursery is fully stocked with the correct PPE, cleaning tools and disinfectants.
- All policies, procedures and risk assessments maintained and up to date.

Staff Responsibilities

All staff have a duty to keep themselves, the children, the team and visitors as safe as possible.

All staff must ensure that:

- They understand how to recognise COVID-19 symptoms and the procedure if a case is suspected
- They understand how to keep themselves and others safe inside and outside or work
- To practice safe ways of working i.e. social distancing, using masks where appropriate, washing hands regularly, using hand sanitiser, regularly cleaning
- To follow daily cleaning procedures
- To remain vigilant at all times to protect health.

Parents/ Carers Responsibilities

Displaying Symptoms of COVID-19 / Suspected Case

If you, your child or anyone in your household displays any one of the symptoms (high temp, cough or loss of taste / smell):

- Your whole household must isolate and stay at home, do not come the Nursery for any reason
- The adult or child who is displaying symptoms must get tested (PCR) at a Government test site (not a rapid lateral test)
- Please inform the Nursery immediately and please share your test results
- If your child is displaying any one of the symptoms they can return once a negative result is confirmed and their symptoms have gone.

Contact with a positive case

If you or your child have had contact with someone who has tested positive in the last 14 days, you must:

- Stay at home for 10 days, you or child must not come to the Nursery

Positive Test Result

If you or anyone in your household receives a Positive PCR or Lateral Flow test result:

- Your whole household must isolate for 10 days from the first day the symptoms start or if there are not any symptoms, from the first day the test is positive.
- If a lateral flow test is positive but a PCR test is taken afterwards and is negative, the PCR test overrides the lateral test. Your child may return to Nursery.
- If anyone in the household starts displaying symptoms whilst isolating, they will need to restart the 10 day isolation period and book a PCR test.

Going abroad

Families must follow the rules on arriving in England following international travel, as set out in red, amber and green list rules for entering England.

Lateral Testing

At Little Sparrows the staff team test themselves every week and we encourage all our families to regular test at home too.

Lateral testing is only to be used for those not displaying any symptoms. The Government has given very clear instructions in that anyone who starts to display one of the 3 main symptoms must get tested at a Government Test site (PCR). Whilst we understand the inconvenience and frustration in this, the safety of the children and it's team is paramount.

ADDITIONAL CLEANING TOOLS FOR COVID-19

Clear signage is up in all areas of the provision explaining what tools and methods should be used at any time. Staff are trained to understand all procedures and in how to use the correct products safely. Products are never mixed together.

Additional COVID-19 tools:

- Coronavirus infectant V2 spray
- Screen disinfectant for the floor
- Blue gloves
- Disposable Masks
- Googles
- Disposable aprons
- Shoe covers for visitors
- Hand sanitiser

GENERAL CLEANING AND HYGIENE

Management Responsibilities

Management works to ensure that:

- That children's toileting and nappy change areas and all cleaning requirements are carried out to a high level of standard.
- The nursery has an adequate supply of soap, hand sanitisers, paper towels, disposable gloves, aprons, nappy cassettes and couch rolls.
- Staff only use disposable nappy wipes, tissues/ towels to clean children.
- The colour coding system for cloths and mop buckets and individually labelled brooms are adhered to..

Staff Responsibilities

Staff must:

- Regularly wash hands with soap and hot water, following the steps laid out on the washing hands poster. Ensure hands are dried properly and the tap is turned off with the paper towel.
    - Before food and drink preparation

    - Before giving medication
    - After using the toilet
    - After helping children with toileting
    - After contact with bodily fluids (blood, urine, saliva) or discharges (faeces, vomit and mucus)
    - After blowing yours or a child's nose (or using antibacterial gel if water and soap is not available)
    - When hands are physically dirty or feel sticky.
    - After removal of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as disposable gloves
    - After handling waste bins and bags
    - After handling animals or their equipment.
- Help children to understand how wash all parts of their hands properly:
    - Before and after eating food
    - After using the toilet or potty
    - After blowing their nose
    - After messy play activities
    - After handling animals or their equipment
- Cover all cuts and grazes with a waterproof plaster. IF you work in the kitchen, use a blue plaster when handling food.
- Wear disposable gloves when changing nappies.
- Double bag soiled clothes and send it home with the child on the same day, If the parent / carer does not take the soiled clothing then throw it away into the nappy bin.
- Make sure that all provisions required for changing a nappy such as Sudocream, nappy wipes are next to the changing mat before placing the child on the changing mat.
- After each nappy change, wipe down the changing mat with the antibacterial spray.
- Empty, wash and spray each potty with anti bacteria spray after each use.
- Make sure you comply with the colour coding system for cleaning equipment.
- Clean toys, equipment, work tops, floors and other surfaces when there is visible food or dirt.
- If a child becomes soiled sue to toileting accident or through play, wash them as appropriate in a respectful way.
- When sand pits are not in use over night, they must be covered.
- The kitchen gate, door handles and playroom bin must be anti bacteria sprayed at the end of each day.

Associated Documents

- Illness, Diseases and Exclusions Policy
- Guidance on Infection Control in Schools https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf
- Coronavirus Procedures and Risk Assessment