

Busy Bees Preschool, Guidance for parents

September 2021

**Safety is our priority**



* Busy Bees will continue to have a full comprehensive risk assessment- regularly reviewed.
* Staff and children will continue to wash their hands regularly throughout the day
* We will continue to clean surfaces, shared spaces and resources regularly
* As from March 2021 the staff team are testing themselves twice a week.
* Good ventilation within the rooms and lots of outside play

**Drop off & collection**

* All children are to use the hand gel provided to clean their hands prior to entering the preschool site.
* **At drop off**, your child will access their room via the side gate and be met by a member of staff at the outside doors to their rooms. Parents are now able to enter the preschool when dropping off their child. For existing families, if your child is happy for you to drop them off at the door, you may continue to do this. However, If you would like to come in, we ask that you keep it brief, and please allow your child to organise their own bag/coats etc. One thing we learned during the last year is that the children demonstrated a high level of independence with sorting out their own belongings, and we like this to continue. So come in, let your child sort out bag etc and then say your goodbyes and leave on a positive note. If your child is a little sad/upset, the staff team will help them, in our experience sometimes when parents stay too long it only prolongs any sadness, and it can be unsettling for other children who may be settling too.
* **At collection time**, parents are to collect their child from outside their room. Nikki/Emma will open the side gate at 2.50pm, and parents are to wait outside the room and the staff will send them out to you. If you need to speak to staff at the end of the day, simply let someone know and this can be organised for you.
* If your child attends the 4 o’clock club, please collect them from the front door.

**What’s different for us this term**

* No more bubbles/keeping children in groups
* Staff no longer having to socially distance from each other/or stay in bubbles
* With many restrictions now removed, we are now able to operate as we were pre-Covid in March 2020. This means a wider range of activities will be available, along with trips out and visitors into the preschool. This makes the staff team very happy, as we have had to operate in a very different way during the last 18 months.
* Wearing masks, either on the site or whilst inside, will be an individual’s personal preference
* Busy Bees are no longer responsible for contacting close contacts in the event of a positive case. NHS track and trace will organise this.

**What happens if there is a suspected case at Busy Bees?**

1. The Covid symptoms remain the same- **temperature, cough or loss of taste or smell.**
2. If anyone, staff or child, in the preschool develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, they will be sent home and they should follow public health advice and organise a PCR test (not lateral flow).
3. If the test is positive the child is required to self-isolate for 10 days and follow advice from track and trace. Inform the preschool manager at the earliest convenience, if out of work hours then via email. If the PCR test is negative, the child may return to Busy Bees if they are feeling ok and have had no temperature or infant suspension/calpol for 48 hours.
4. Children who have been absent through suspected Covid-19 must contact the setting before returning. Busy Bees will check – that the relevant isolation has been completed, that testing was carried out, that the child is well enough to return (no fever for 48 hrs).
5. It is not the preschools responsibility to diagnose children, if you are in any doubt about symptoms’ then please call 111 or go to [www.111.nhs.gov.uk](http://www.111.nhs.gov.uk)

**What happens if there is a Covid case within a family?**

If there is a positive case within a household, it is advised that all people in the household get a PCR test. Children are still able to come to preschool during this time whilst awaiting a result, if they do not any symptoms.

**Outbreak management**

We are starting this September operating in a pre-covid way, following current guidance, and we truly hope that this remains the same throughout the term.

In the event of an outbreak of Covid cases in the preschool, either staff or children, we have an outbreak plan in place, and we will liaise closely with the Wiltshire Health Protection team.

Parents will be informed if there are two or more cases within the preschool. In this instance, it may be necessary to put in place additional measures including parents not entering the building, increased cleaning and the reintroduction of bubbles if advised. In the event of several staff members being affected it may also be necessary to reduce numbers of children for a short period, in order to maintain correct legal ratios. Key worker children, vulnerable children and children with additional need would be prioritised in this event.

I hope that this information has given you the information you need to understand what arrangements we have made to keep both staff and children safe and we look forward to welcoming you soon.

If you have any questions, then please contact the preschool.

**Managing children who are sick or infectious**

**The following additional precautions for Covid-19 shall apply from June 2020 until further notice**

* A stricter approach to sickness will be taken during this time in order to protect other children, staff and our wider community from a potential Covid-19 outbreak.
* It is expected that our families will follow the latest hygiene and social distancing guidelines outside of preschool to keep themselves as safe and well as possible.
* All children and adults entering the setting will be required to use hand sanitiser or wash their hands.
* Children who are unwell **must not** attend and children who display signs of being unwell during the session should be collected as soon as possible. A contactless thermometer will be used to check temperatures where necessary.
* Children who have needed paracetamol or ibuprofen suspensions in the previous 24 hours must not attend.
* If a child becomes unwell during the session they will be isolated from the group and supervised by one member of staff. The member of staff will wear the advised level of PPE (face mask, goggles, apron and gloves). All areas used by the unwell child will be thoroughly cleaned before other children will be allowed to use them again.
* If your child will not be attending pre-school for any reason, we request that you let us know (via telephone or email) no later than 10am on the first day of absence. We will contact families who fail to do this as good communication will be key to monitoring any potential infections and enabling us to follow the correct guidance.
* Where Covid-19 has been suspected, parents must contact the preschool before their child can return. We will check that testing and household isolation procedures have been followed and that the child is well enough to return with a minimum period of 48 hrs without a fever.
* A positive test result should be reported to the manager urgently. The preschool will follow guidance from Public Health England.
* Where children have been prescribed antibiotics or any other new medication, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting to ensure there are no adverse side effects and the child is well enough.
* Parents are reminded not to bring into the pre-school any child who has been vomiting or had diarrhoea until at least 48 hours has elapsed since the last episode.
* All other exclusion periods continue to apply, please ask for further advice or visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-9-managing-specific-infectious-diseases>

Thank you for helping us to keep everyone safe and well.