



Coronavirus-19

What is Covid-19

“an acute disease in humans caused by a coronavirus, which is characterized mainly by fever and cough and is capable of progressing to severe symptoms and in some cases death, especially in older people and those with underlying health conditions. It was originally identified in China in 2019 and became pandemic in 2020.”

Symptoms of Covid-19 *taking from NHS website

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

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

What to do if a child develops symptoms of Covid-19 *taken from NHS website

If your child has any of the main symptoms of COVID-19, even if they're mild:

1. Get a PCR test (test that is sent to a lab) to check if they have COVID-19 as soon as possible.
2. Your child should stay at home and not have visitors (self-isolate) until you get the test result – they can only leave home to have the test. [Check if you and anyone else your child lives with need to self-isolate.](#)

If a child develops symptoms while at nursery we follow the flow chart found overleaf.

What to do if a staff member develops symptoms of Covid-19 *taken from NHS website

If you have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19, even if they're mild:



1. Get a PCR test (test that is sent to a lab) to check if you have COVID-19 as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors (self-isolate) until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test. [Check if people you live with need to self-isolate.](#)

If a staff member develops symptoms while at nursery we follow the flow chart overleaf

Managing Covid-19

Tender Care takes many approaches to minimise the risk of Covid-19 to all it's users of the setting;

- Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents.
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
- Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19
- Designated entrance and collection points
- 1½ hourly cleaning of all frequently touched surface

For further details please refer to our guidebook overleaf

Positive Cases of Covid-19

The positive parent, child or staff member should follow the government guidance for confirmed cases of Coronavirus and should isolate and not attend the setting for the recommended period of time and inform the setting manager.

Tender Care will report all positive cases and outcomes to the following people;

- Ofsted
- Shelley.davies@croydon.gov.uk
- Rachel.flowers@croydon.gov.uk
- Covid19@croydon.gov.uk
- Child.care@croydon.gov.uk

Prioritising early years places

If high levels of workforce absence means we need to restrict attendance (for example, where a setting is oversubscribed, or unable to operate at full capacity) you should give priority to:

- children of critical workers, and vulnerable children - we also aim to support any children we you believe may have challenging circumstances at home, though not on statutory systems
- then 3- and 4-year-olds, in particular those who will be transitioning to Reception
- followed by younger age groups



Asymptomatic Testing

Testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within settings. Staff test twice weekly at home, with rapid lateral flow device (LFD) test kits – we ask to test on a Sunday and Thursday, 3 to 4 days apart. Testing remains voluntary but is strongly encouraged.

Tracing close contacts and self-isolation

Close contacts in early years settings are now being identified by NHS Test and Trace and education and childcare settings are no longer expected to undertake contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case to identify close contacts and/or their parent or carer to identify close contacts. Contacts from a setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case and/or their parent or carer specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. You may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.

From 14 December 2021, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are strongly advised to take a lateral flow test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result. Daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts who are:

- fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses of an approved vaccine
 - all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status
 - people who are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
 - people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine
- Children under 5 years who are identified as close contacts are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing of close contacts. They are advised to take a PCR test if the positive case is in their household.

Charging parents and carers if their child is unable to take up their place

The nursery fees remain valid where a child has to take time off to isolate – however this will be reviewed if it is for a prolonged period of time such as more than 2 weeks absence from the setting and discounts may be applied,

Should the setting close its services or restrict access to the priority places, those not attending the nursery will not be charged.



This policy is updated frequently depending on guidance received from the government and local authority.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
11/01/2022	Liz Francis – Area Manager	11/01/2023