



# Returning to Nursery

amid Covid-19

A guide for Parents & Carers

# Welcome

We hope you and your families are well. We are looking to re-open on the 8th June provided the government confirms that it is safe to do so. We will be using a phased return to enable us to ensure the safety of children and staff. We will be prioritizing vulnerable children, critical worker children and 3 & 4 year olds that will be starting school in September, followed by those children of parents needing to return to work.

We need to be honest with you and state categorically that we are unable to social distance children of this age and therefore cannot guarantee your children's safety, though we have several measures in place to ensure we can minimise risk as much as we can. The reason childhood illnesses spread rapidly is because children are unable to stay away from each other.

There is still many unknowns in relation to this pandemic and I am not sure we will have the answers anytime soon so we can only offer a service and allow you to make your own decision on what you do with your child(ren) for your individual circumstances. We do not think we can make a decision on your behalf when it comes to something as precious as your children.

Despite every effort on our behalf to ensure that our children and staff are safe,, every child in the setting will be admitted with the understanding that parents have understood the risks that are involved and are aware and agree to adhere to our safety guidelines. Should we feel that parents or carers are not following the guidelines then it may be necessary for us to remove care until situations change.

***Patience, tolerance and flexibility is key for the safety of everyone in these difficult times.***

Phases of Re-Opening		
Phase 1	From Mon 8th June	Children of key-workers (any age), those classified as vulnerable, those aged 3 or 4 who are transitioning to Primary School in September 2020.
Phase 2	From Mon 6th July	Those children whose parents are still working or a sole parent is working (any age).
Phase 3	From Mon 3rd August (excluding Bank Holiday)	Those children who do not fall in to any of the above categories (Any age).

# Our Safety Measures

## 1. DROP OFF AND COLLECTION

We will be staggering drop off and pick up times to ensure social distancing is maintained and so that not all children enter and leave at the same time.

There will also be one designated entrance and exit for this.

Please talk to your children and prepare them for their return to nursery so they are ready to come in by themselves without being distressed as we will not be able to physically take them (with the exception of babies). We recommend that the same person consistently drops and picks up the children.



Please maintain a distance of 2 metres from others

## 2. PARENTS QUEUE

Upon arrival to the setting you will see signage for both entrance and exit routes. There will be 2 metre markers set out on the ground at the entrance and exit. Parents will be expected to adhere to social distancing rules outside the premises keeping the required distance apart. Parents will be unable to gather outside the nursery and unfortunately will not be able to enter the building until further notice.

Staff members will collect your child from the door and bring them to the collection point for you upon your arrival.

# Our Safety Measures

## 3. CLEANING

The nursery will be carrying out deep clean and sterilization of all toys prior to Monday 8th June. Thereafter there will be completing hourly cleaning of all frequently touched surfaces, the outdoor area will be done before and after each group change.

We want to minimize as much as possible the risk of spreading any germs .



## 4. TRANSPORT

Parents are requested to avoid using public transport where possible. We advise you to come by car, walking or cycling.

In the unfortunate circumstance your only option is to use public transport please be safe and adhere to the social distance rules, ensuring that you remain 2 metres away from others.

# Our Safety Measures

## **5. PRESENTATION/ LARGE GROUP ACTIVITIES**

The nursery will be cancelling on social events, which include trips and graduations and parents evenings for the foreseeable future.

Children will not mingle in large groups—on your child returning to nursery they will be allocated a group—which will remain their bubble group until further notice. We have mainly based this on age so that we are able to carry out small group time activities accordingly. Children will have access to all 7 areas of learning from within their bubble group and area.

Bubble groups will be no larger than 8 children.

## **6. OUTDOORS & LUNCH/SNACK TIME**

Children will be eating lunch and snacks within their bubble groups. To ensure children can be spaced out and keep within the peers they are mixing with. It will not be permitted to bring a packed lunch and therefore any children attending on funding only will be required to purchase nursery hot lunches and teas until to ensure health and safety of all.

Children will attend the outdoor area in their groups, and equipment will be wiped down before and after a group has used the garden.

# Our Safety Measures

## 7. THE ENVIRONMENT

We will continue to provide care and education in small bubbles with a maximum of 8 children per bubble, with the same adults throughout the day.

The nursery environment has been altered to create education areas that contain all the resources necessary within their bubble space, this is to minimize contact from groups and many different parents of the nursery. Bubble groups will have use of an allocated toilet area.

Areas that need to be accessible for all staff and children include the garden and nappy change facilities which will be cleaned between each child or group.



## 8. HANDWASHING

We ensure that our children are washing their hands for at least 20 seconds across the day, particularly;

- On arrival the setting
- After sneezing or coughing
- Before and after handling or eating food
  - After using the toilet
  - After using the outdoor area

Hand sanitizer has also been places in communal areas

# Our Safety Measures

## 9. PROMOTING GOOD HYGIENE

The nursery will promote regular good hygiene materials to ensure they are maintaining a good hygiene.

We will be conducting activities and singing songs relating to hand washing, sneezing, coughing.



## 10. PPE—PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

The children and staff will not be required to wear PPE in the setting. However, the nursery has ensured there is enough supply of PPE such as disposable gloves, aprons, face masks and face shield, should any staff want to wear and in case of a child falling unwell whilst on site.

# Our Safety Measures

## 11. CHILDREN THAT BECOME UNWELL

If you or anybody in your family becomes unwell with a continuous cough, temperature or loss of taste and smell, then the whole family will need to isolate for 14 days in line with government guidance.

If any child becomes unwell with the above symptoms they will be sent home. Whilst the child is awaiting collection, they will be placed in isolation with a member of staff away from other until they are picked up. It is vital we are able to get in touch with parents immediately; therefore please ensure we have your most up to date contact details.



## 12. STAY AT HOME

Any children living with a person who is at increased risk of severe illness, or an extremely vulnerable person who is shielding from coronavirus, should stringently follow the government guidance on social distancing and minimize contact outside the home, such children are advised not to attend the setting.



# Our Safety Measures

## **13. PARENT AND STAFF COMMUNICATION & VISITORS**

Face to face communication between staff and parents will be minimal, however we shall ensure that you receive all necessary information in an alternative method.

We will not allow any non essential visitors to be on the site until further notice and all meetings with the manager and key workers must be held via phone call. Any essential visitors will be required to complete our visitor screening form prior to meeting date.



## **14. CLOTHING, BUGGIES & RIDE ONS**

Please ensure hygiene is maintained and that children come in with fresh, clean clothes daily.

Buggies and ride-ons will not be permitted to be left at the nursery until further notice. Parents bringing children in buggies will need to take the buggies home or with them after drop off.

# Our Safety Measures

## 15. BAGS AND TOYS

Children will not be allowed to bring in toys or comforters from home. All parents will be required to leave a clearly labelled bag with sufficient clean clothes at nursery. If children need to be changed, their dirty clothes will be bagged and sent home as per normal.



## 16. USEFUL LINKS

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>
  - <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
  - <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/dr-dog-ebook-eyfs-t-p-843>
- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-children-aged-2-to-4-to-learn-at-home-during-coronavirus-covid-19>
  - <https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/>
  - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>
  - <https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>