



Changes to Practice: September 2021

The Early Years Sector are no longer required to make significant changes to daily practice as a result of Covid-19, however, we have taken the decision that some procedures will remain in place to continue to safeguard our children, families and staff from further transmissible infections and illnesses. Early Years Settings are required to have a Covid-19 Outbreak Management Plan and details of ours can be found below.

Some of the changes we made in 2020 will remain as we believe these to have had a positive impact for the children and will, therefore, continue as part of 'best practice'. We have also made some other changes to our practice. These are listed below in summary but can also be found within our reviewed policies -

Policy Reference	Changes from September 2021	Reason for change
Intimate care and hygiene	We ask that a child arrives at Pre-School in a fresh nappy/pull up. We will not be routinely changing children if they are attending for just a morning or afternoon session, unless soiled or sodden. Children attending until 1pm or 3pm will be changed once routinely; more if necessary. The routine change will be at lunchtime.	To minimise disruption to the child's learning during their session.
Managing children with allergies or who are sick or infectious	(Addition to paragraph 4) If a child's temperature continues to be a concern, the parent/carer will be asked to come immediately to collect their child and Calpol will be administered* An ambulance will be called if the child's condition deteriorates whilst waiting to be collected. <i>*Written consent needs to be given on the Registration Form and verbal consent given when parents/emergency contacts are contacted and informed of the high temperature. The Manager or Assistant Manager will make the decision for Calpol to be administered.</i>	To minimise any further medical conditions e.g. convulsions, compromised immunity.

	<p>(Change to paragraph 6) Children and Staff will be excluded from the setting if they have diarrhoea and sickness until 48 hours* after cessation of symptoms. If a child has two unexplained loose stools whilst at the setting the parents will be called and recommended to arrange collection of the child.</p> <p><i>*We reserve the right to extend the 48hr period if an outbreak occurs. An outbreak is defined as a case/cases which are required to be reported to Public Health England (PHE). Parents/carers will be notified of this should the situation arise.</i></p>	To reduce the transmission of infectious diseases
Maintaining children’s safety and security on the premises	<p>Security –</p> <p>Staff will collect the children from the car park at 9am or 12pm. Parents/carers are required to wait with their child(ren) until a member of staff is present.</p> <p>At least two members of staff will collect the children. Staff will be allocated at the bottom of the path to greet children and allocated at the top of the path to ensure children’s safe arrival. Staff will also be present in the pre-school to support children as they enter.</p> <p>Any late arrivals will walk their child(ren) up to the front door and ring the doorbell for us to collect the child.</p> <p>Parents/carers will collect their children from the car park at 12pm, 1pm or 3pm. Staff will walk the children down the path who will be dismissed individually to the authorised adult.</p>	We have found this system has improved children’s independence and has supported the settling-in process for new children.
Health and Safety	<p>Hygiene –</p> <p>Children and staff will be required to sanitise their hands upon arrival.</p> <p>In addition to regular toilet checks, a recorded toilet check will be carried out at lunchtime. At this time, frequently touched surfaces will also be disinfected (security system, door handles, soap dispensers).</p>	To reduce the levels of bacteria within the setting

	<p>Some toys will be required to be disinfected at the end of each session e.g. frequently 'mouthed' foods - home corner food & utensils.</p> <p>Rooms will be well ventilated by the opening of high-level windows and doors.</p>	
Parental Involvement	<p>Key workers will contact you regularly by way of telephone consultations, rather than face to face meetings, to discuss your child's progress in a more formal manner. Any day-to-day communication can still take place at drop off/collection and our open door policy remains in place so we can still arrange 'in-person' meetings should either party feel it necessary.</p>	<p>More effective to manage and reduces disruption to the children.</p>
COVID-19 Management plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only children and staff who are not symptomatic or have completed the required isolation period can attend Pre School. • Children will be supported in age-appropriate ways to understand the steps they can take to keep themselves safe including regular hand washing, sneezing into a tissue and using bins for tissue waste. • If anyone becomes unwell with any COVID symptoms, they must be sent home and advised to follow the staying at home guidance. If a child is awaiting collection, they will be moved, if possible, to the library where they can be isolated. No child will be left in the library with the door closed. The window will be opened for ventilation. If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they will use the disabled toilet which will then be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else. Anyone sent home will be required to follow the "Stay at Home" guidance. • Staff will be encouraged to be fully vaccinated (two doses). • Staff will undertake two Lateral Flow Tests each week. If a positive LFT is given, the staff member will isolate, take a PCR test and follow the "Stay at Home" guidance. • If there is a positive case within the pre-school, the positive case will be required to isolate for 10 days. If close contacts are fully 	

vaccinated and/or under 18 years of age they do NOT need to isolate but anyone over the age of 5 should take a PCR test (under 5's are only advised to take a PCR test if the positive case is within their household). They do not need to isolate whilst waiting for the results, however, if the result is positive, they will be required to isolate.

- NHS Track and Trace will be responsible for identifying close contacts. Pirton Pre-School will engage with NHS Track and Trace by providing any attendance and contact information as required but will not contact close contacts directly.
- We will inform you of any positive cases and inform you as to whether it was an adult or child in order for you to make any attendance decision you feel necessary but will not share any further information. There will be no reduction in fees should you make the decision that your child will not attend Pre School.
- We will report any positive cases to the Department of Education on 0800 046 8687 (option 1). We also inform our local Health Protection Team at COVID.EYSEducation@hertfordshire.gov.uk and follow any additional advice given. We will also inform Ofsted via <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/report-a-serious-childcare-incident>
- We will keep a COVID record which will note any COVID related absences/situations/cases.
- If an outbreak occurs (identified as "several confirmed cases within 14 days") we will continue to work with the Health Protection Teams to identify whether further control measures need to be activated. If an outbreak is confirmed, we may need to consider interim closure to prioritise enhanced cleaning protocols.
- We will contact parents/carers by email with any COVID updates and/or cases as a priority. These emails will contain information on the next steps required to be taken.

Any significant changes to this Management Plan will be shared with you as and when necessary.

	<p>All current guidance on staying at home can be found here https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection</p> <p>And current Early Years guidance can be found here https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures</p>	
--	--	--

Agreed by Pirton Pre-School Management Committee: August 2021