

CORONAVIRUS POLICY

To ensure high levels of health, hygiene and safety remain effective throughout this difficult time, we will be implementing strict restrictions and procedures. We understand these differ from our usual routines, but these are in place as a result of stringent risk assessments and to ensure the safety of our children, families and staff at all times. We will get our information and follow the guidance from the government, The DfE, and PHE, as well as getting any essential updates and advice from our Early Years Adviser from the Local Authority.

On entrance via the large metal gates, you will find hand sanitizer. We ask that you kindly respect social distancing measures at all times. You will be required to drop off at the door and leave via the park gate to co-operate with our one way system to limit the risk of parents crossing over. We ask that one parent attends to drop off and collect where possible to limit the footfall to the setting and also reduce the mass of gathering at these times.

Children entering the setting will be supported by staff with their usual routine of coats and bags on coat stand, and lunch boxes on shelf and then wash their hands before play is able to commence. Staff will wipe down the lunch boxes with a safe Milton spray to sterilise, and we ask that a bag of spare clothes is left at the setting to minimise the amount of things coming in and out of the setting daily. These will be returned termly.

We no longer have to operate in bubbles in Early Years and children will be able to enjoy our usual practise without the worry of being too close to their friends or staff.

Our toy choices must remain limited and the children must be encouraged to ask for resources to ensure its safety and compliance with government guidelines. Toys will be limited to things that are easily cleaned to ensure they are clean at all times.

Parents or visitors will not be allowed in the setting, other than in exceptional circumstances, which will be down to the discretion of the management team.

Essential Settling sessions for parents to attend with new starters will be managed appropriately, ensuring a maximum of 1 parent per room is in attendance at any one time. Parents attending will be provided with written information regarding our procedures and safety measures which they must adhere to at all times, maintaining social distancing during their time in session. Hand sanitizer is available for adult use inside Puddleducks, and is encouraged for regular use.

We will not be operating our usual snack bar on our return to the setting. We ask that you provide a suitable snack for your child to enjoy, along with a drink bottle. These will be accessible for your child throughout the day, and we will be able to refill the bottles if

required. We will reassess the suitability of the snack bar regularly and will reintroduce when it is considered safe to do so.

No toys from home will be allowed into the setting, unless it is considered as an essential comforter for your child.

Staff will ensure the entire setting is sterilised and cleaned at the end of every daily session, as well as strict measures throughout the day to reduce risks of contamination.

The Use of Various Settings during COVID-19

We are constantly striving to ensure the safety of all the children at our setting.

Current Government Guidance states that parents should be encouraged to use 1 setting per child unless it is essential. We appreciate for many that it is essential to use more than 1 setting and therefore we have been in consultation with other childcare settings and providers in the Village of Over and the surrounding area. All settings have in place safe working and protective measures in place to ensure the safety of the children and staff.

As a result of the Consultation, we have all decided the following:

- * We will accommodate children who are attending another setting.
- * We ask that you let us know what setting your child is attending and what days and times. This is to allow us to keep a record for the safety of all settings, children and staff
- * If you are made aware of anyone at the other setting of having any COVID-19 symptoms we ask that you let us know immediately.
- * We ask that you have a bag for each setting so we can reduce the risk of cross contamination
- * Please supply a lunch box and water bottle that can be easily wiped down when it comes into the setting.

If your child or any member of your family display symptoms of COVID-19, your child must remain at home for the time specified by Government guidelines. We will inform all other settings that any of the children attend to ensure they have correct information regarding a confirmed case in our setting.

If a child began to display signs of COVID-19 during session, they would be immediately isolated into the unused long room. If the long room becomes in use, we will find a secure and safe part of the

Puddleducks room or Community Centre. The adult will be required to wear the provided PPE, (gloves, apron, mask) and follow the social distancing guidelines, where possible.

If a staff member began to display signs of COVID-19 during a session, they must leave immediately. Where they are unable to leave immediately and need to wait for collection, the above procedure must be followed, with the most senior member of the team, where ratio allows. If we are unable to cover the member of staff, we may need to finish the session early and you will be contacted to arrange collection.

In the event of a Staff member or their family displaying symptoms of COVID-19, we will ask the member of staff to remain at home until the time specified by the Government. If we are not able to get cover for the staff member, it may be required that the setting closes. In this instance, you will be notified as soon as is practically possible.

As per the government guidance for Early Years, we will not be wearing face coverings or anything above our usual PPE. The wellbeing of your child, and our staff members is and will always be our priority, and all aspects of our provision have been carefully risk assessed to ensure the implemented procedures comply with regulation and maintain high levels of care, as well as safety.