# Mayfield Preschool

**Covid19 Addendum to Health and Safety Policy**

This addendum to the preschool's Health and Safety Policy and will set out guidelines to be used in conjunction with our existing policy. It aims to set out heightened procedures for infection control and health and safety during the Covid19 pandemic, and will be used alongside the setting risk assessment and Procedure for Sudden Illness.

**Infection Control Measures:**

All staff and families will be made aware of our rigorous infection control measures at this time. These will include:

* Children/adults will be kept in group 'bubbles' or no more than 8 children, and following usual ratios. There will be no more than 16 children, or as per government guidelines, at any one time.
* Only staff are permitted on site. No visitors will be permitted during the pandemic.
* Good basic hygiene practices such as regular hand-washing (practitioners and children)
* Supervise young children to ensure they wash their hands for 20 seconds more often than usual with soap and water
* Clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces more often than usual using standard cleaning products
* Waterproof dressing to cover on any existing wounds or lesions
* Personal protective equipment (PPE) such as aprons and gloves are used as necessary (and face masks if someone falls ill, inline with Sudden Illness Procedure)
* Clear procedures are in place for cleaning equipment and wider environment (a deep clean will take place daily)
* Immediate cleaning of spillages of blood and other bodily fluids, with disposal in usual way
* Clear procedures on safe disposal of waste (see Sudden Illness Procedure)
* Infection control guidance and management procedures in place which are clearly understood and adhered to by staff
* Any items that come into contact with mouths such as cups, bottles and straws should not be shared.
* Lunch boxes are full disposable daily.
* All children (parents of) and practitioners are asked to fully wash their clothes after every session in the setting.

**Hand washing:**

Public Health England advises that children and staff should be encouraged to catch sneezes with a tissue, bin the tissue and wash their hands (catch it, kill it, bin it).

We should also remind children to wash their hands,

* after outside play
* before meals and snack times
* after using the toilet
* when they arrive at your setting
* at the end of the day before they go home.

If we do not have access to soap and water to hand at the time, an alcohol-based hand sanitiser can be used instead – a foam based one for children and a stronger alcohol-based gel for adults. It is important that everyone should try not to touch their eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands. Hand-washing songs and Covid19 social stories have been shared via email, Tapestry and on our website for children.

**Legionnaires and Unused Buildings:**

There may be times during the pandemic when the preschool premises is unused. During this time there is an increased risk of Legionnaire’s Disease from hot and cold water systems being unused.

While the risk is low within small buildings, steps should be taken to protect all users and we will ensure that:

* Taps are run through once a week for two to three minutes
* All toilets are flushed on a weekly basis
* Before the setting is reopened, all water systems will be flushed through and disinfected thoroughly

These updates will be reviewed throughout the pandemic and changed to reflect current DfE and government guidance.

**HSE Guidance on the Reporting of Covid19**

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has issued guidance on RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrence Regulations) and when these regulations may apply to coronavirus (see Annex A for further information). We must also notify Ofsted, as we would for any other notifiable event.

Riddor can be contacted to report at: <https://notifications.hse.gov.uk/riddorforms/Disease>

**Mental Health and Well-being**

Please see our Child Protection and Safeguarding Addendum for update guidance.

**ANNEXE A**

**TAKEN FROM** <https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/riddor-reporting-coronavirus.htm>

**RIDDOR Reporting of Covid19**

**This guidance is for the person reporting, usually the employer (known as the ‘responsible person’).**

## Members of the public and non-work-related cases: There is no requirement under RIDDOR (The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013) to report incidents of disease or deaths of members of the public, patients, care home residents or service users from COVID-19.

The reporting requirements relating to cases of, or deaths from, COVID-19 under RIDDOR apply only to occupational exposure, that is, as a result of a person’s work.

## What to report: You should only make a report under RIDDOR when one of the following circumstances applies:

* an accident or incident at work has, or could have, led to the release or escape of coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). This must be reported as a dangerous occurrence.
* a person at work (a worker) has been diagnosed as having COVID-19 attributed to an occupational exposure to coronavirus. This must be reported as a case of disease.
* a worker dies as a result of occupational exposure to coronavirus. This must be reported as a work-related death due to exposure to a biological agent.

### Dangerous occurrences: Dangerous occurrences are certain unintended, specified events, which may not result in a reportable injury, but which do have the potential to cause significant harm.

For an incident to be reportable as a dangerous occurrence, the incident must have resulted (or could have resulted) in the release or escape of coronavirus, that is, led to a possible or actual exposure to coronavirus.

The assessment does not require any complex analysis, measurement or test, but rather for a reasonable judgement to be made as to whether the circumstances gave rise to a real risk or had the potential to cause significant harm.

### Cases of disease: exposure to a biological agent: When deciding if a report is required, the responsible person (usually the employer) must make a judgement, based on the information available, as to whether or not a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 is likely to have been caused by an occupational exposure, that is, whether or not there is reasonable evidence that a work-related exposure is the likely cause of the disease.

The report should specify a disease due to exposure to a biological agent and use the case of disease report form.

### Work-related deaths due to exposure to a biological agent: For an incident to be reportable as a death due to occupational exposure to coronavirus there must be reasonable evidence that a work-related exposure caused the worker’s death.

The responsible person should notify the enforcing authority by the quickest practicable means, without delay, and send a report within 10 days. The report should specify death due to exposure to a biological agent using the “case of disease” report form.

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