

**Infection prevention and control policy (covid19)**

This Policy has been devised to ensure current procedures already in place are continued with and extra care given to combat the spread of corvid 19.

**Restriction of numbers and mixing of groups**

Apple Blossom Playgroup group will be accommodating pre-school care for 25 children as per the current trust certificate and government guidelines as of 31st July 2020. The same 3 members of staff will continue, and relief staff will only be within the setting if it is compulsory and they are anyone in their household must be deemed fit and heathy and display no symptoms of coronavirus.

The setting will not and is not being used by any other groups until such restrictions are eased and a thorough and robust risk assessment is carried out.

**Procedures for managing infection control**

All staff have completed covid-19 awareness training which required them to complete a self-assessment of their knowledge. Evidence of this is located in their personal file, this will be updated as and when required.

**Measures for prevention infection spread**

Sanitizer station will be located at gateway and at entry of playgroup.

Employees, children and visitors must use this before entering the premises.

Within the setting there will be:

Sanitizer dispensers located in each of 3 toilet areas, food preparation area as well as various locations within the room,

Children will be encouraged to use when moving from one area of play to the other to help reduce the spread of germs.

Staff will also pay close supervision in toilet areas to ensure good handwashing techniques and hygiene, all of this will be promoted in a child friendly manner accordingly.

Children will be encouraged to use tissues for sneezing and coughing as well as nose cleaning and bin the tissue, staff will assist if needed as well as wearing gloves when required to do so.

When an item of equipment or play resources come into contact with a child’s sneeze or cough the items will be removed to the outdoors area until it can be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized

Staff will wear an apron mask and gloves when changing a child when they have a toileting accident as well as caring for a child who starts to show symptoms whilst in the setting. Staff and parents to make children aware of staff wearing PPE in these circumstances.

**Procedure for making staff aware of child’s health.**

Parents are to let the leader know that their child is not displaying signs and symptoms which include cough, sneezing, runny nose, temperature, vomiting, diarrhoea loss of smell and taste. If they are, they are not permitted to enter the proximity of the playgroup. This will be done verballing each morning and noted in the sign in -out sheet. Along with the staffing names and the carer that left the child in and out that day for tracking and tracing purposes.

Parents can also message or call the playgroup or send an email

**Procedure for making parents aware of symptoms**

Parents will be given a printout of signs and symptoms specific to under 5s and the test trace protect procedure this information will also be available on the playgroup section of the primary school’s website.

Parents were also notified of signs, symptoms and procedures if their child were to display them.

**Procedure for screening your child for covid-19 symptoms**

Parents are advised to check their child’s temperature each morning before attending the playgroup this is if your child feels hot to touch on the chest or back you do not need to test their temperature. Parents are advised to seek an appointment for testing.

**Procedure for passing on information regarding a positive test**

Parents/ carers are advised to notify the Playgroup Leader as soon as possible if their child or a member of their has tested positive for covid-19, any information shared will be kept confidential.

**Passing information to your child**

These times can be very unsettling for children, so we need to make the whole transition to pre-school as easy as possible for all children, so they feel safe and comfortable in the environment.

Parents and staff need to be mindful of the information we relay to them, so at the playgroup we will be enforcing all our new measures in a way that it doesn’t interrupt the child’s mood and state of mind, sanitizing of hands and staff distancing will be done in a child friendly way that they wont notice it will be incorporated in our everyday play using language such as ‘you cant sneeze here’ or ‘ you must wash your hands or you’ll get coronavirus and have to go to hospital’ these are negative phrases that will play on a child’s mind so we need to be kind to their thoughts and feelings.

**Procedure for when a child becomes sick in the setting**

When a child becomes unwell in the setting or starts to display sign or symptoms related to Coronavirus covid-19. A member of staff will wear PPE and sit with your child in the Kitchen area (with the door open) of the playgroup (outside area weather dependant) with all other staff and children directed to another area of play this will be done discreetly so the child does not feel intimidated, another member of staff will contact the nominated child’s collector that day to advise them to collect the child as soon as possible.

**Procedure for children who have been in contact with people who have symptoms**

parents are advised that their child should not attend playgroup if they have been in contact with anyone who has tested positive for covid-19 awaiting results, if they are someone in their household is displaying symptoms.

**Procedure to notify the relevant authorities.**

Upon awareness of a positive covid-19 test the playgroup leader will contact the Public Health Agency and the Trust Early years team by phone call and make them aware of the confirmed case without giving confidential details away. They will decide the next course of action, in the case that it is the child that is attending the playgroup this ‘play pod’ playgroup will be required to close for 14 days for self-isolation. The child’s other household members do not need to isolate.

**Making children aware of procedures appropriate to their age**

Children will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently by staff in a friendly manner such measures including using sanitizer will be part of our dailt routine and in a child friendly manner,

We will encourage children to use tissues when required and put in bin straight away. As well as teaching them to cough/sneeze into elbow.

We will talk to the children about how there are germs that might make you sick so we need to do the above procedures to help reduce the spread.

**Monitoring**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the management team to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

This policy was adopted by Apple Blossom Management Committee

Signed: …………………………………… Date: …………………….

(by Chairperson on behalf of the management team)

Reviewed on:

Date: …………………. Signed: …………………………………………

Date: …………………. Signed: …………………………………………

Date: …………………. Signed: …………………………………………