

The Learning Tree Day Nursery
Coronavirus – COVID-19
Policy and Procedure

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We take health and hygiene very seriously already here at the learning tree day nursery. We already have robust procedures in place, particularly with regular hand washing and cleaning/sanitising of communal surfaces.

This is an ever-changing policy due to the advice from Government changing all the time with regard to COVID -19. Therefore this policy will be based around the current legislation and guidelines at the time.

REDUCING THE RISK:

It is highly important that we all remain vigilant as regards to our health and hygiene. This includes thoroughly washing your hands following interactions with others, after sneezing or coughing, before preparing/eating food, after toilet use and when your hand are visibly dirty.

It is also advised that you should:

- Maintaining social distancing, ideally of a least 2 meters. We will do this by ensuring using all space available both indoors and outdoors and with a common-sense approach.
- Drop off and Pick-ups: we are asking that all parents do not enter the nursery and drop/pick their child/children up at the main gate where they will be collected by a member of staff.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth: until you have thoroughly washed your hands.
- minimising contact with individuals who are unwell by that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend childcare settings, schools or colleges
- cleaning hands more often than usual - wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and dry them thoroughly or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered
- ensuring good respiratory hygiene - promote the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach
- cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents and bleach
- minimising contact and mixing by altering, as much as possible, the environment (such as classroom layout) and our outdoor space as much as possible.
- Seek medical care: If you have a serious concern about your health.
- Stay informed: With government advice updates are being issued daily.
- Read NHS guidelines

THE USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- children, young people and students whose care routinely already involves the use of PPE due to their intimate care needs should continue to receive their care in the same way
- if a child, young person or other learner becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus while in their setting and needs direct personal care until they can return home. If contact with the child or young person is necessary, then gloves, an apron and a face mask should be worn by the supervising adult. If a risk assessment determines that there is a risk of splashing to the eyes, for example from coughing, spitting, or vomiting, then eye protection should also be worn

What happens if someone becomes unwell at an educational or childcare setting?

If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature in an education or childcare setting, they must be sent home and advised to follow the [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance](#).

If a child is awaiting collection, they should be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age of the child and with appropriate adult supervision if required. Ideally, a window should be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people.

If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate bathroom if possible. The bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.

PPE should be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs).

In an emergency, call 999 if they are seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. Do not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital.

If a member of staff has helped someone who was unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, they do not need to go home unless they develop symptoms themselves (and in which case, a test is available) or the child subsequently tests positive (see 'What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in a setting?' below). They should wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after any contact with someone who is unwell. Cleaning the affected area with normal household disinfectant after someone with symptoms has left will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people. See the [COVID-19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings guidance](#).

The child will then need to be tested for Covid 19 and will only be able to return to the setting if they have a negative result. If the result is positive they will go into self-isolation as per government guidelines and the entire group that has had contact with the child will go

into self isolation also.

Will teachers and other staff be able to get tested if they have symptoms?

Access to testing is already available to all essential workers. This includes anyone involved in education, childcare. Education settings as employers can book tests through an online digital portal. There is also an option for employees to book tests directly on the portal.

What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in a setting?

When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they should be sent home and book a corona virus test. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 10 days at least after the onset of symptoms. All staff and students who are attending an education or childcare setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario.

Where the child, young person or staff member tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.

Where the child, young person or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or group within their childcare or education setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the cohort or in the wider setting, Public Health England’s local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise schools and other settings on the most appropriate action to take. In some cases a larger number of other children, young people may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole class, site or year group. Where settings are observing guidance on infection prevention and control, which will reduce risk of transmission, closure of the whole setting will not generally be necessary.

This policy goes hand in hand with our Covid 19 Risk assessment.

Policy was written on:	Written by: