



Chelsea Open Air Nursery School

**Chelsea Open Air Nursery School COVID-19 Policy
Precautions, Practice & Procedures**

The policy above will be monitored and evaluated following the policy cycle at
Chelsea Open Air

Date of establishment: July 2020

Date of Review: February 2021

Date of next Review: March 2021

Approved by Governors on:

Signed on behalf of Chelsea Open Air Nursery School: _____

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body: _____

Chelsea Open Air Nursery School COVID-19 Policy

Precautions, Practice & Procedures

This Policy outlines the Chelsea Open Air response in relation to the Coronavirus Pandemic 2020/2021. It follows to the best of our ability guidelines set out by the UK Government and the Department of Education.

- These procedures and measures will be subject to change due to updated advice and guidance from the government and relevant medical and educational authorities.
- The school will remain open unless directed to close by the Government or Local Authority.
- If closed due to lockdown measures the school will remain open during term time to support the children of Keyworkers (as defined by the government) and vulnerable children. **If the school is unable to open for these children they will be directed to alternative provision.**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision>

In the event of school closures children will be provided with a blended learning approach incorporating paper based learning packs and online provision. Please see our Blended Learning Action Plan.

What is Covid-19 / Coronavirus?

The World Health Organisation gives the following overview:

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus.

Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is be well informed about the COVID-19 virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads. Protect yourself and others from infection by washing your hands or using an alcohol based rub frequently and not touching your face.

The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes, so it's important that you also practice respiratory etiquette (for example, by coughing into a flexed elbow).

At this time, there are no specific vaccines or treatments for COVID-19. However, there are many ongoing clinical trials evaluating potential treatments. WHO will continue to provide updated information as soon as clinical findings become available.

www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus

Check the NHS website if you think you or your child may have symptoms or view the information at the end of this document:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms-and-what-to-do/>

How to stop infection spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus.

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often - do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Don't

- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean

What the School Will Do

- The children's safety and well-being is our main priority as a staff team and all appropriate measures will be taken to support this.
- Any staff experiencing symptoms will self-isolate for 10 days/take a COVID 19 test. Anyone living with someone who is experiencing symptoms will self-isolate for at least 10 days or until a negative test result is given.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/how-long-to-self-isolate/>

- Provide staff (via DfE) with Lateral Flow Self-testing kits for regular use (Bi-weekly)
- Provide staff with PCR tests (via DfE) for home use if required.
- Use the test booking portal system to book COVID 19 Tests for staff with suspected cases.
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>
- Parents will be notified of any confirmed cases of Coronavirus via the text messaging/email system and a sign on the door.
- A confirmed case or outbreak will be reported to the Local Authority and DfE in line with Government guidance. We will then follow their guidance and make any closures or other actions accordingly.
- In case of fire or emergency all social distancing measures will be suspended and children and adults will leave the building via their nearest or safest fire exit and follow the usual procedures for evacuation.
- Staff will wash hands on arrival at nursery and frequently through the day.
- Staff will frequently clean surfaces such as taps and door handles with an antibacterial spray.
- Where possible staff will carry out social distancing measures. (Never at the risk of a child's well-being)
- Staff will be provided with PPE for use in school in line with DfE and PHE guidance.
- All toys will be frequently cleaned using an antibacterial spray/dishwasher or appropriate cleaning detergent. (Sharing of toys will be limited wherever possible).
- As far as possible use of soft furnishings and soft toys will be limited
- Windows and doors to the main classroom will be kept open to ensure ventilation. Please ensure children wear appropriate clothing.
- Stay & Play Sessions and other Community Programme activities will not run. This will be continually reviewed.
- External visits and visitors will only occur where deemed safe in line with our Risk Assessment/Policies
- Drop off and Collection procedures will be amended (See section below)

- Paediatric First Aid requirements will be met at all times (See Appendix 1)
- Staff will leave the building by 5.15 to ensure Cleaners can access the building alone.
- The school will keep up to date with advice and directions from appropriate bodies and will amend practise and procedures accordingly.
- Lunches will be collected from Christchurch by a staff member. The staff member will not enter the building and will wear a facemask. On return to school they will thoroughly wash hands and wipe down food boxes using an antibacterial wipe. Normal procedures will be followed for the dishing up and preparation of food before children sit down. In addition to the usual measures staff will wear PPE including a facemask. Adults eating with the children will wear aprons and gloves.

What Parents/Carers Will Do

- Parents will not bring children to school if they or someone in their household is unwell or experiencing symptoms of Coronavirus.
- Children and families will access testing if they have suspected symptoms and will follow procedures accordingly if diagnosed with COVID 19.
- Parents will inform school immediately of any confirmed cases of Coronavirus
- **Parents will maintain social distancing and wear a facemask at drop off and collection times. Please see the new procedures for drop off and collection**
- Parents will not come into the school building without prior arrangement. Parents entering the building must wash their hands and wear a facemask.
- Only one adult will drop off children
- Conversations with staff will be limited on the doors, please email or phone the office where possible.
- Provide their child with a named water bottle and snack each day in the provided plastic wallet.
- If possible children will only use waterproof, wipeable bags to bring items into school. This bag will remain at school and only return home when clothing needs topping up or at the end of term.
- Parents will avoid public transport as far as possible and children will walk/bike/scoot to school.
- Ensure all children's belongings are clearly labelled with their names and that all children have sufficient spare clothing.
- Will not leave pushchairs or scooters at school.
- If children are wearing a facemask on their way to school parents will remove this and take it away with them. They will bring it back for collection. Parents are responsible for disposing of their child's face mask if required.

What Children Will Do

It is impossible to ask very young children to carry out social distancing measures but they will be supported to stay as safe at school as possible.

- Any children experiencing symptoms or living with someone who is experiencing symptoms of Coronavirus will self-isolate for at least 14 days.
- Where possible children's bags containing spare clothes etc. should be waterproof and easy to wipe down.
- Children should only bring their coats and snack bags into school each day. (No unnecessary items)
- All clothing and other items will be clearly labelled with names.
- Children will thoroughly wash hands on arrival at Nursery before playing or touching any toys.
- Children will wash hands regularly throughout the day, especially before eating.
- If a child becomes unwell with suspected Coronavirus they will be isolated in a well-ventilated room with a familiar adult until they can be collected. This room will then be cleaned before further use.
- Group and story times will take place in smaller groups, larger spaces and outdoors where possible.
- Regular sessions with a focus on hygiene, handwashing and spread of germs will take place to support children's understanding. Songs games and stories will be used to support this.
- Children will not share food or drink.
- Drink only from their own named water bottle, milk carton or their own cup at lunchtime.
- At lunch time children will sit further apart from each other.

See also our Supporting Children who are Sick, Infectious or with Allergies and Wise Before the Event policies

Drop Off & Collection Procedures

- To minimise the risk of spreading infection and in creating 'Gatherings' of people, **parents will not be admitted into the building** unless by prior arrangement.
- Only one adult to drop off and collect to minimise number of people.
- When arriving at Nursery please try to keep your distance from others by forming a line by either school entrance.
- **Parents must wear a face mask at drop off and collection**

Morning Drop Off

- Two queues will be in use to maximise social distancing (children should take turns to enter from each queue)
- Children will enter through the main entrance. Parents will not be admitted beyond the school gates.
- Morning drop off is from 9.00am-9.15am. Entry after 9.15am will be marked as late.

Afternoon Drop Off

- Children will enter via the main classroom door.
- Afternoon drop off is from 1.00pm-1.15pm. Entry after 1.15pm will be marked as late.

Collection

- All children will be collected from the main classroom green doors at their usual collection times.
- **Parents must form one queue to the main school gate and maintain social distancing.**
- After collection children will not be readmitted to the building. Any left items will have to be collected the following day

NHS Advice:

Please visit: for the most up to date advice: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

[Visit the website for testing procedures](#)

Coronavirus in children-Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Children can get coronavirus (COVID-19), but they seem to get it less often than adults and it's usually less serious.

What to do if your child has symptoms of coronavirus

The symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours

Call 111 If your child has these symptoms.

What to do if your child seems very unwell

Children and babies will still get illnesses that can make them very unwell quickly. It's important to get medical help if you need it.

Urgent advice: Call 111 or your GP surgery if your child:

- is under 3 months old and has a temperature of 38C or higher, or you think they have a fever
- is 3 to 6 months old and has a temperature of 39C or higher, or you think they have a fever
- has other signs of illness, such as a rash, as well as a high temperature (fever)
- has a high temperature that's lasted for 5 days or more
- does not want to eat, or is not their usual self and you're worried
- has a high temperature that does not come down with paracetamol
- is dehydrated – for example, nappies are not very wet, sunken eyes, and no tears when they're crying

Immediate action required: Call 999 if your child:

- has a stiff neck
- has a rash that does not fade when you press a glass against it (use the "glass test" from Meningitis Now)
- is bothered by light
- has a seizure or fit for the first time (they cannot stop shaking)
- has unusually cold hands and feet
- has pale, blotchy, blue or grey skin
- has a weak, high-pitched cry that's not like their usual cry
- is drowsy and hard to wake
- is extremely agitated (does not stop crying) or is confused
- finds it hard to breathe and sucks their stomach in under their ribs
- has a soft spot on their head that curves outwards
- is not responding like they usually do, or not interested in feeding or usual activities

Side effects of children taking a vaccination or teething

Vaccines may cause a mild fever in children. This is a common and expected reaction, and isolation is not required unless coronavirus (COVID-19) is suspected.

Whilst teething can cause some known side effects such as flushed cheeks and sore gums, [NHS guidelines](#) state that fever is not a symptom of teething.

Parents and carers should monitor side effects from a vaccination or teething, and if they are concerned about their child's health, they should seek advice from their GP or NHS 111.

If coronavirus (COVID-19) is suspected, settings should follow the advice in the [system of controls](#).