Ofsted: EY: 421302

**The ongoing Coronavirus and Respiratory Outbreaks Policy**

Policy and procedure – dealing with and helping to prevent possible cases of Coronavirus.

**Revised 1st November 2022 in line with the Governments “Next steps for living with COVID-19”.**

**https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-next-steps-for-living-with-covid**

***To minimise the risk of children attending and staff from contracting Coronavirus the following control measures will be in place :***

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| **Ensure good hygiene for everyone** | * Little Oak will ensure the provision of tissues and bins, handwashing facilities and ensure children wash their hands before and after eating and using the toilet. * We promote and teach the children to ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ – catch a cough/sneeze in a tissue and put it in the bin to kill the germs and then wash their hands. * Staff will also follow the above. |
| **Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes** | * The kitchen, toilets and tables/unit tops to be cleaned regularly by staff. * During the day – toilets are cleaned at lunch time and whenever necessary. * Tables are cleaned before and after café, before and after lunch and again at the end of the day. * Floors are swept after eating and mopped at the end of the day. * Any toys that have been in a child’s mouth will be removed and returned when disinfected. Frequently touched areas such as the cloakroom, cupboards, doorframes etc will be cleaned regularly. |
| **Keep spaces well ventilated** | * All available doors are to be kept opened. * When children are outside the doors will remain open as usual. * For safety, the doors will be closed for lunch and other times. |
| **Following public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of Covid-19** – | * Little Oak management will keep up to date with any updates. |
| **Attendance** | * Little Oak staff with symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should stay at home until they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to return to work. * If staff are able to test for covid they should and if they test positive, they should stay home for at least 5 days and only return to work if they are well. * Children with symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should stay at home for at least 3 days and until they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to return to pre-school. * If a child tests positive for covid they should stay home for at least 3 days and only return to pre-school if they are well enough. * No child should attend pre-school with a high temperature, continual cough, sickness or diarrhoea. |
| **If a child or staff member becomes ill with symptoms whilst at Little Oak Pre-school the following procedure will be carried out:** | * The child’s parents will be contacted and asked to collect their child as soon as possible as with any illness. * The staff member will go home as with any other illness and test if possible. |

**In case of Respiratory Outbreaks**

This part of the policy aims to explain the key actions for managing respiratory infections in Little Oak Pre-school, in line with published guidance: Health protection in education and childcare settings - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

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| **Transmission Route** | *Person to person spread through small droplets, aerosols and through direct contact. Surfaces and belongings can also be contaminated when people with the infection cough or sneeze or touch them. The risk of spread is greatest when people are close to each other, especially in poorly ventilated indoor spaces.* |
| **Exclusion**  Guidance for children in pre-school including staff and parents with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)) | * Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and where possible avoid contact with other people. They can go back to an education or childcare setting when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough. * It is not recommended that children are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional. * If a child has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and where possible avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test. * Staff and any other adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days. * Children who attend Little Oak and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal. * Children with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education or childcare setting. |
| **Closures** | * It is not necessary to close the pre-school, unless there are operational reasons such as significant staff absence, which would be a decision for the pre-school in conjunction with the relevant educational authority. |
| **Recommended actions for limiting transmission** | |
| **Hand and respiratory hygiene**  See the above: Ensure good hygiene for everyone | * Little Oak will endeavour to teach the children as an ongoing project using when appropriate ‘**e Bug - England Home** has a range of educational resources for ages 3-16 to learn about microbes, infection prevention and control, antibiotics and vaccination’. |
| **Cleaning and disinfection** | See the above **- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes** |
| **Ventilation and use of outdoor space** | See the above **- Keep spaces well ventilated** | |
| **Communications** | * Little Oak will try to raise awareness among parents and guardians of the outbreak and when or where necessary reinforce key messages, including the use of hand and respiratory hygiene measures | |

*Little Oak Pre-school will, if there is a laboratory confirmed influenza case and if any of our child(ren) have any health conditions we are unsure about we will contact our local Health Protection Team for further advice.*

Signed on behalf of Little Oak Pre-school (Witney) Ltd

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Rosalind Hambidge (Director) Date: 2/3/2023

Signed on behalf of Little Oak Pre-school (Witney) Ltd

Policy review due: November 2023