

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health

The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting. They must have a procedure, discussed with parents and/or carers, for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill.

WARMINSTER BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

Covid-19 specific procedures

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

Parents/carers are asked not bring their child to nursery if they show symptoms of Covid-19.

Symptoms include

- high temperature
- persistent new cough
- loss of taste or loss of smell

Dropping off and collection of children

- It is a personal choice to wear a face mask, however we are encouraging parents/carers when lining up on drop off and collection to wear one.
- We will continue to check children's temperatures throughout the day or if a child becomes unwell.
- Children must wear clean clothes each day they attend and they must not bring anything from home except
 - snack – cut up ready to eat in a plastic box with their name on it
 - lunch - ready to eat (cold) in a separate plastic box with their name on it
 - rucksack (wipe-down, if possible) with change of clothes
 - please – no toys! (except for comforters for children)
- Parents/carers should be encouraged to park all buggies, scooters and trikes in the external buggy area, observing social distancing.
- Parents/carers will be met at the outside playground gate (behind the main building) or at the front door depending on which class their child is in.
- While cases are still high as much as possible, we will not let parents/carers onto the site.
- Children will wash hands/use sanitiser as soon as possible when they enter the nursery.

Mixing

- There is no longer a recommendation that we keep children in 'bubbles'. We will now be mixing our early starters and late finishers within the classes.
- However, if we have a positive case or an outbreak it may become necessary to reintroduce keeping groups apart for a temporary period.

Ventilation

- During a session opening external windows will improve natural ventilation and, in addition, opening internal doors, can also assist with creating a throughput of air.

Toys and equipment

- We need to remember that in the setting the children are very young and children of this age need cosy areas and places to relax. Any blankets used will be washed daily, we have also purchased wipe down mats, beanbags and large cushions.
- We aim to clean regularly throughout the day.
- Staff and children to wash hands regularly throughout the day/session.

- It is important to give a range of play and learning experiences, so we will provide sensory play, such as water play, gloop, playdough and shaving foam.
- Equipment used will be washed daily.
- We discourage children to touch their eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands (all adults to be mindful of this too).
- Staff/children cover or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the bin. Also, staff to support children with this - **Catch it, Bin it, Kill it**. Bins to be supplied with a lid to throw away dirty tissues or wipes. Must be bagged up daily and disposed of in the main bin.
- Staff will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces throughout the day. This will include tables, chairs, resources, equipment, doorknobs, light switches, handles and all surfaces. All Keyboards, tablets and electrical equipment will be cleaned regularly throughout the day.
- All outdoor toys and equipment will be disinfected daily.

Lunchtime/snack

- Adult and children to wash hands before and after meal times.
- All surfaces to be cleaned thoroughly before and after.
- Parents/ carers to be asked to provide snacks/fruit cut up to limit as much as possible staff handling the children's snacks.
- Dishwasher set to hot wash.

Intimate care

- Staff will clean the toilet area thoroughly throughout the day.
- During nappy changing PPE to be worn by adults - aprons and gloves for individual child (this is our normal procedure). Nappy changing area to be cleaned thoroughly after each child has been changed using blue roll and anti-bac spray.
- During suntan application PPE to be worn - by adults - aprons and gloves for each individual child (this is our normal procedure).

First aid

- Qualified First Aider will be on site at all times. The staff member to wear appropriate PPE, essential – apron & gloves (this is our normal procedure), mask and goggles if required.
- All surfaces, chairs to be wiped down after.
- Staff should bring spare clothes to change into if they have looked after a child who becomes unwell.

Dealing with a child showing symptoms of Covid-19 in the setting

- Parents will be informed if a child shows signs of being unwell and asked to collect their child.
- A child waiting collection should be moved if possible and appropriate, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door. If it is not possible to isolate them, move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people. A window should be opened for ventilation.
- The staff member to wear appropriate PPE, essential – apron & gloves, mask and goggles if required.
- All PPE and clinical waste to be double bagged up when the child has left the setting, stored securely for 72 hours and disposed of with clinical waste.
- If further clinical advice is needed the setting may recommend that the parent or carer should go online or ring the **NHS**.

Tracing close contacts and self-isolation

- Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education and childcare settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.
- As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case to identify close contacts. Contacts from a setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case and/or their parent or carer specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact.

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated.

- they are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
- Instead they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.
- Children who are aged under 5 years old who are identified as close contacts will only be advised to take a PCR test if the positive case is in their own household.
- Staff who do not need to self-isolate, and children who usually attend the setting, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend the setting as normal.
- 18-year-olds will be treated in the same way as children until 6 months after their 18th birthday to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. At which point, they will be subject to the same rules as adults and so if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact.
- Settings will continue to have a role in working with health protection teams in the case of a local outbreak. If there is a substantial increase in the number of positive cases in a setting (see [local outbreaks](#) section for more information) or if central government offers the area an enhanced response package, a director of public health might advise a setting to temporarily reintroduce some control measures.

Please note:

If a child in the setting tests positive and they have a sibling who lives in the same household who also attends the setting and have been advised to take a PCR by the NHS Test and Trace, following government guidance we would highly recommend they take a PCR test as soon as possible.

Staff infection control

- Staff to use hand sanitiser when entering the building and when transferring to community centre also when leaving the building.
- Staff should bring spare clothes to change into if they have looked after a child who becomes unwell.
- Thorough hand washing to take place throughout the day (20 second rule).
- Staff to thoroughly wash hands before entering the staff room and when they return back from a break to work in the classroom.
- Although wearing a mask is personal choice as a setting we are encouraging staff to wear facemasks/wear visors when children are dropped off and on collection from parent/carers.
- Employees who come to work but must not be displaying any coronavirus symptoms, the most common being a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of taste and smell.
- It is important not to attend work if anyone in your household has symptoms of Covid-19.
- Staff will be asked to meet with the manager every few weeks to fill a Covid-19 well-being form.
- If a member of staff travels internationally, they may be asked to quarantine for 10 days before they return to work and follow the government guidance to undertake CPR tests. This will depend on whether the destination visited is on the green, amber or red list or whether or whether they meet the criteria of not needing to self-isolate.

Moving around the building

- Parents will not normally be allowed into the office area of the building (to deal with admin issues). They can communicate with the nursery at the office window, via phone or email where possible. Where it is essential to speak to nursery staff face to face this will be done Parent/Carers being asked to wear a face mask and staff will wear one too.
- Everyone to use hand sanitiser when entering the building and when transferring to the community centre also when leaving the building.
- If we have a case of Covid -19 or an outbreak staff wearing face masks may be reintroduced in all communal areas in the nursery and community centre when taking comfort breaks and lunch breaks.

Visitors to the setting

- With the exception of essential work, workman/building contractors will be asked to work outside the nursery opening hours.
- All visitors will be asked to wear a face mask when they enter the building.
- Visitors to the setting will only be permitted in the building at the Managers discretion and only if it is an essential activity that needs to take place while the children are present.
- A poster is displayed in the entrance reminding visitors to follow Covid- 19 procedures.

Risk assessments

- All risk assessments will reflect the risk of transmission of COVID-19. Certain activities will be adapted or removed to reflect this risk e.g. sensory activities.

Fire evacuation

- Use existing Fire evacuation policy.

Safeguarding children and child protection during Covid-19

(see updated policy)

This policy was adopted by	Warminster Bright Beginnings	<i>(name of provider)</i>
On	1 st September 2021	<i>(date)</i>
Date to be reviewed	1 st September 2022	<i>(date)</i>
Signed on behalf of the provider		
Name of signatory	Jason Broad	
Role of signatory (e.g. chairperson & Secretary)	Secretary	