



Triangle Pre-School Wesley Methodist Church Hall, Fromond Road, Winchester, Hampshire, SO22 6EG Telephone 01962 880988 Registered Charity Number: 1033953

# **Covid Pandemic Policy**

We will take the following precautionary measures to reduce the potential spread of Covid 19 in our setting.

This policy is based on guidance from Public Health England and the Department for Education.

### Aim of Policy

This policy defines and assists the operating arrangements in place within the Pre School that assures compliance to Government and Public Health England guidelines.

This information builds upon our current procedure for areas such as Safeguarding, Student Placement etc. This policy will evolve as guidelines change.

## Method

The basic principles to be outlined in this policy are to ensure reasonable social distancing is adhered to and good hygiene practices are followed.

We will put into practice protective measures for children, staff and parents to reduce the risk of transmission. We will continue to follow our other policies as long as they do not conflict with this policy.

## Children

Only children who are symptom free or have completed the required isolation period should attend.

It is preferable where possible that children attend only one setting.

We will encourage the children to play outside as much as possible to help reduce the risk of infection.

The indoor play area will be prepared with fewer resources and furniture to provide space and enable social distancing.

Where possible care routines will be carried out by a child's key person or buddy.

Snack and lunch tables will be arranged in a way that is not over crowded.

Children will be supported in age appropriate ways to understand the steps they can take to keep themselves safe including regular handwashing ,hand sanitizing, coughing into an elbow, using a tissue and adopting the catch it ,kill it and bin it routine.

The EYFS framework will continue to be delivered through play and adult led activities.

Staff

Staff should only attend Pre School if they are symptom free, have completed the required isolation period or had a negative test result.

Social distancing rules apply (ie two metre distance if possible from each other and a one distance as a minimum.

Staff meetings and training sessions will be conducted at the setting ensuring social distancing is adhered to or via online platforms.

All staff members will receive appropriate training to ensure they understand the operating procedures and risk assessments within which they will be operating.

Parents

If possible parents and carers should not enter the building.

We have painted two metre lines outside the door so parents can socially distance while waiting to drop off or collect their child.

Only parents who are symptom free and/or have completed the required isolation period or have received a negative test result can collect or drop off their child.

We will regularly update our parents and carers to ensure they receive up to date information regarding the role they can play in our safe operating plan.

All staff will wear face coverings when dropping off or picking up their children and unless they are medically exempt we expect parents /carers to wear them also.

Health and Safety

All children must sanitize their hands before they enter the building.

Hand sanitizer will be available for all children and staff to use regularly.

Children will be encouraged to wash their hands before and after eating food, after visiting the toilet, after sneezing, blowing their nose or coughing into their hand.

Bodily fluid spills will be cleaned up using the usual procedures.

#### Cleaning

An enhanced cleaning schedule will be implemented that will include :

Furniture, surfaces, toys, and equipment to be cleaned daily.

Communal areas, touch points ( such as light switches , door handles ) must be cleaned at the end of every session and by the cleaner who comes into the setting daily.

**Risk Assessment** 

The setting was risk assessed before reopening in June 2020 to address the risks from the virus and where necessary new procedures were adopted which include all of the following plus :

- Suspension of learning materials involving materials not easily washable such as playdough , clay

- We limit the amount of resources that we have out for children including very small intricate toys that are hard to clean.

-We have suspended baking activities, food play and finger painting.

-Children should not bring in items from home unless essential for their well being such as comforters. Any comforters bought in should be sent home and washed daily.

### PPE

Government guidance is that PPE is not required for general use. If a child shows symptoms staff should wear a face mask, visor, disposable gloves and an apron which should then be disposed of when the child goes home using Government guidelines.

### Responding to a suspected case

If a child develops symptoms while at Pre School they should be collected as soon as possible and isolated at home in line with current Government Guidance.

Whilst waiting for the child to be collected the child and the member of staff (Manager or Deputy Manager ) should be isolated from other children and staff in the foyer. If possible a window should be open for ventilation. The staff member should wear face mask, visor, gloves and a disposable apron.

Afterwards the area should if possible be left for 72 hours and then cleaned thoroughly.

If a member of staff develops coronavirus symptoms whilst at work they should return home immediately and isolate at home in line with Government guidelines. They should also follow current testing advice for themselves and their household.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Triangle Pre School hold on :

Date to be reviewed : March 2021

Signed on behalf of Management Committee :.....

Name of signatory :....

Role of signatory :....