


Sawston Nursery Covid19 Operation Plan/Policy for Parents and Children – Updated on 29th June 2022 (NHS guidelines/Government Advice).

Our primary aim is to keep the nursery as safe as possible from the transmission of COVID.

The Operation Plan below, contains guidance from the Department of Education and the NHS website to create protective measures for all children, their families and the staff working in the nursery.

Area of consideration	Recommendations
<p>Attendance</p> 	<p>There is no longer a legal requirement for people with coronavirus (COVID-19) infection to self-isolate, however if you have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result, the NHS advice is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have COVID-19, you can pass on the virus to other people for up to 10 days from when your infection starts. Many people will no longer be infectious to others after 5 days. <p>You should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days. • Avoiding meeting people at higher risk from COVID-19 for 10 days, especially if their immune system means they're at higher risk of serious illness from COVID-19, even if they've had a COVID-19 vaccine. This starts from the day after you did the test. • If a child or young person aged 18 or under tests positive for COVID-19, they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days. This starts from the day after they did the test. • Children and young people tend to be infectious to others for less time than adults. If they're well and do not have a temperature after 3 days, there's a much lower risk that they'll pass on COVID-19 to others. We advise that your child stay home for 3 days after a positive test to avoid the spread of the virus in Nursery.

(If your child is not attending the Nursery, please feel free to speak to the nursery about continued support for learning, through contact with your child's key person).

You may wish to look at the following websites to support your child whilst at home:

- Hungry little minds
- BBC Tiny Happy People
- Words for life
- Help children aged 2 – 4 to learn at home: coronavirus (COVID 19)


- The porch area in the nursery will be used to drop off children in this current climate. However, parents/carers can enter the setting to collect their child/ren providing they do not have any COVID symptoms and have not tested positive.
- The legal requirement to wear a face covering no longer applies. However, the government suggests that you continue to wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces where you may come into contact with people you do not normally meet (Nursery Foyer and Corridors).
- We continue to ask that parents, children and staff continue to sanitise their hands before entering the nursery.
- Please give priority to staff waiting to enter the nursery so they can prepare themselves and be in the classroom to greet the children.

Living safely with
COVID19



- The most effective way to avoid passing on COVID-19 infection is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.

- The risk of catching or passing on COVID19 is greatest when someone who is infected is physically close to or sharing an enclosed and or poorly ventilated space with other people. When someone with a respiratory viral infection such as COVID19 breathes, speaks, coughs or sneezes they release small particles.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These particles can come into contact with the eyes, nose or mouth or can be breathed in by another person. The particles can also land on surfaces and be passed from person to person via touch. • However, it is possible to be infected even by someone you do not have close contact with, especially if you are in a crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated space. This is because the infectious particles can stay suspended in the air for some time. <p>There are simple things to consider in your daily life to reduce the spread of COVID19 and other infectious diseases. Things you can choose to do are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get vaccinated • Let fresh air inside if meeting someone in an enclosed space • Practice good hygiene routines • Clean surrounding areas frequently 😊 • Wear a face mask (Optional)
<p>Health and Safety</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In all circumstances, risk assessments would be carried out and the nursery are responsible for maintaining the quality of care, safety, and security of children. • Parent and child groups can now operate as normal and without restrictions on attendance. • In situations where there is a higher risk of catching or passing on COVID you should follow the guidance on 'coronavirus: how to stay safe and help prevent the spread' as noted above in this plan. • Staff have guidance on appropriate PPE and the operating procedures we have in place in nursery. • Staff can make their own choice to wear a mask in communal areas and in the classroom under current government guidance, including kitchen staff. • Staff can make their own judgement on how comfortable they feel in the staff room with the number of staff members present, as there are now no restrictions on the maximum amount.

- If your child has been given Calpol prior to coming into the nursery and requires 1:1 care due to being unwell, they should stay at home, as we are not able to give them the attention, they require throughout the session with one adult attending to their needs. We all know the best place for a sick child is at home with their main parent/carer. Please refer to our, Managing Sick Children Policy, on our website at www.sawstonnursery.org
- All areas of the nursery will be kept well ventilated, with door and windows open where possible. There should be a balance for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature.
- If a child or member of staff have been sick, or had diarrhoea, they must not return to the setting for at least 48 hours after symptoms last showed and they feel well enough to attend (Please refer to the Managing Sick Children Policy).
- Adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.
- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.
- Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.
- If your child has a temperature or appears unwell, they should stay at home until they are feeling better and no longer reliant on temperature relief medication (as per our Managing Sick Children Policy), which can be found on our website at www.sawstonnursery.org parents may also ask for a copy from our admin or management team.




Symptoms of COVID-19 can include:


- a high temperature or shivering (chills) – a high temperature means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste
- shortness of breath
- feeling tired or exhausted
- an aching body
- a headache
- a sore throat
- a blocked or runny nose
- loss of appetite
- diarrhoea
- feeling sick or being sick



The symptoms are very similar to symptoms of other illnesses, such as colds and flu






<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

- Nursery toys and resources that are used by the children during the day must be cleaned using Milton or anti bac spray daily.
- All soft furnishings/soft toys and dressing up clothes will continue to be washed regularly.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a member of staff develops suspected COVID19 symptoms whilst working at the nursery they will be sent home to take a LFT and if confirmed positive will remain at home for 5 days until well enough to return to work.
<p>Reporting cases of COVID 19</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test results no longer have to be reported to NHS Test and Trace. • There is no longer a requirement to inform OFSTED of COVID19. • A report will be made to RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013) if there were a breakout of COVID19 or any other dangerous disease that could potentially harm adults and children. Should an accident or incident at the setting occur which could have led to the release or escape of COVID19. This must be reported as it is a dangerous occurrence.
<p>Food Preparations</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our cook will continue to provide all snacks, lunches, and tea to the children in the nursery. • Blue disposable gloves and aprons must be worn by all staff throughout serving any food to the children. • Staff handling food are in receipt of their Level 2 Food Hygiene training certificate. • Staff must ensure that they wash/ sanitise their hands before and after supporting with mealtimes in the room and when on their lunch/ rest breaks.
<p>Well Being</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will be supported in age-appropriate ways to understand the steps they can take to keep themselves safe including regular hand washing and sneezing into a tissue. • Children will be supported to use sanitiser/ handwashing where necessary. • Children will be supported to understand the changes and challenges they may be encountering as a result of COVID. • Staff need to ensure they are aware of children's attachments and their need for emotional support at this time.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities will support and nurture children in developing their social and emotional well-being and resilience. • Drop off in the morning will now take place in the foyer until further notice. • Pick-ups from Nursery – Parents have the choice to wear a mask in the building. • We will continue to use our traffic light system of one parent per room at any one time. • Any parents/ carers who have COVID symptoms should stay away from the Nursery until they are well enough to return. Feel free to contact us through Tapestry and e mail if you have any questions or queries during the day.
<p>Personal Hygiene</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and children are expected to wash their hands for 20 seconds with running water and soap and then dry thoroughly. Handwashing is encouraged throughout the day at regular intervals. • Staff, parents, and children should sanitise their hands on arrival at the nursery as they depart at the end of the day. (Hand Sanitiser can be found on the red table in the foyer). • Hand sanitiser is provided in the classrooms and areas around the nursery including the staffroom. • Nappies will continue to be disposed of in a hygienic manner. • All gloves and PPE will be disposed in a nappy sack/medical waste bag immediately after use placed in a closed bin. • Please discourage your children from bringing in toys from home unless essential. We understand that some children require a comforter, and we will endeavour to ensure that these are accessible to the individual child only. This will help prevent children becoming distressed when another child wants their toy, as well as preventing loss, damage, or transfer of viruses. • Posters are displayed in the nursery to demonstrate good hygiene practices. • No flannels or towels will be shared by children and are washed after every use. • Windows are to be opened throughout the day to ensure good ventilation in the rooms prior to the children entering the nursery. • Lockers are used by staff to store personal belongings.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are to have their hair tied back in the classroom and not wear jewellery although wedding rings and stud earrings are acceptable. • Regular spot checks will be carried out by the management team to ensure cleaning of resources are in place.
<p>Cleaning</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An enhanced cleaning schedule is in place to include all furniture, surfaces and children's toys and equipment. • Within classroom and communal areas, touch points and handwashing facilities are cleaned and sanitised regularly. • Mop heads are to be changed daily in the classrooms and toilet mops are changed immediately after use. • We employ a cleaning company who come into the nursery, after closure on a daily basis, to ensure all areas are cleaned to a high quality.
<p>Risk Assessment</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have a COVID19 risk assessment in place where consideration has been given to any adaptations to usual practice. • An outbreak management plan is in place, outlining how the Nursery would operate if any of the measures described within the contingency framework were recommended in their area for any reason. • The Contingency Framework describes the principles of managing local outbreaks of COVID-19 (Including responding to variants of concern) in education and childcare settings. • The Contingency Framework is considered alongside the relevant Covid-19 Guidance for those settings. • Our risk assessment highlights any risks in the COVID pandemic, and the safety control measures currently in place throughout the nursery.

<p>PPE</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government guidance is that PPE is not required for general use in Early Years settings to protect against COVID transmission. • PPE should continue to be worn as normal for nappy changing and the administration of first aid.
<p>Communications</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents will continue to receive updates where necessary related to safer operations in the nursery.
<p>Outings</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outings from the setting into the local community are risk assessed by staff and management prior to departure.
<p>VISITORS</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are now able to invite outside agencies and professionals into the nursery where necessary.
<p>Procurement and monitoring</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPE is monitored to meet the operational needs of the nursery.