

COVID- 19

Risk Assessment Meadowbank Day Nursery

Rationale: In Wales we are now moving from pandemic to endemic and living with COVID-19, as outlined in 'Together for a safer future: Wales' long-term Covid-19 transition from pandemic to endemic (March 2022)' plan. However, COVID-19 has not gone away and will remain with us globally.

The legal requirement to undertake a COVID-19 risk assessment no longer applies. However, mitigating measures that have been used throughout the pandemic continue to be key

Aim- To reduce the spread of the virus, and protect staff, children and all service users.

Updated-01/05/2022 in line with Childcare Settings: potential reasonable measures action card (coronavirus)- Guidance to help childcare providers protect children, staff and visitors.

Mitigating measures that have been used throughout the pandemic continue to be key. Meadowbank Day Nursery will:

- consider how we manage our operations to reduce the risk of transmission in the setting
- be aware of [self-isolation advice](#) and what this requires where someone tests positive for COVID-19
- ensure children and staff who are unwell with core COVID-19 symptoms do not attend the setting until they feel well enough
- ensure staff and children follow good hand and respiratory hygiene practices
- maintain effective cleaning regimes
- keep occupied spaces well ventilated
- encourage and maximise the use of our outdoor space
- support vaccine take up
- ensure staff and parents are aware of a settings policies regarding COVID-19.

Identified Risk	Person (s) at risk	Risk level before control 1-10			Control Measures	Risk Level After Control 1-10			Responsibility
		S	L	R		S	L	R	
Awareness of procedure and risk	Staff and children	5	4	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff to be made aware of the nursery’s infection control procedures in relation to coronavirus • The nursery keeps up-to-date with advice issued by local authority and Welsh Government • Parents informed of the procedures put in place to help keep children safe in nursery. • Any cases of illness, including COVID-19 are to be treated with confidentiality. • Risk Assessment posted on the nursery website and this has been sign posted to parents/carers. • All staff involved in reviewing and completing risk Assessment and have copies available. 	5	2	10	Manager/All staff

<p>Children who have symptoms of a respiratory infection, including COVID-19</p>	<p>Staff and children</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>Respiratory infections are common in children, particularly during the winter months.</p> <p>For most children and young people, these illnesses will not be serious. Very few become seriously unwell. This is also true for children and young people with long-term conditions. However, some children under 2 can become more seriously unwell from a respiratory condition called RSV. This includes those born prematurely or with a heart condition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending nursery is important for children and young people’s development, health and well-being. • Children and young people with mild symptoms can continue to attend the setting. Mild symptoms include a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, in children who are otherwise well. • They should be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing. They should wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues. • Children and young people who are unwell and have a high 	<p>5</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>Manager/All staff</p>
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				<p>temperature should stay at home. They should avoid contact with other people where they can. They can come back to the setting when they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to attend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It can be difficult to know when to seek help if your child is unwell. If you are worried about your child, especially if they are aged under 2 years old, then you should seek medical help.• If a child develops symptoms of COVID-19 while at the setting the parent or carer will be contacted immediately and the child collected and taken home. The child will be isolated and cared for in a well ventilated room.				
				<p>What to do if your child tests positive for Covid-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay at home and avoid contact with other people• Remain at home 5 days after the day your child took the test, or from the day their symptoms started (whichever was earlier).• Please notify they Nursery as soon as possible if your child tests positive for Covid-19 so				

					that TTP can be contacted to advise the Nursery accordingly				
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Focus -Children Wellbeing and Education	Staff and children	3	3	9	<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 handwashing and sneezing into a tissue –‘Catch it, bin it, kill it’. • Children should be supported to understand the changes and challenges they may be encountering as a result of Covid-19 and staff need to ensure they are aware of children’s attachments and their need for emotional support 	3	2	6	Manager/All staff
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<p>Focus -Children Play and Learning</p>	<p>Staff and children</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will ensure children wash hands regularly, throughout the day, as well as before eating, after being outside, after coughing or sneezing. • Children will spend as much time outdoors as possible as this can limit transmission and more easily allow for distance between groups. • Outdoor equipment will be appropriately cleaned • Play with sand, water, play dough and cookery and other messy play activities will take place with the relevant guidance around hygiene and cleaning adhered to. These activities will be suspended in accordance with infection control procedures should there be an outbreak of an infectious disease/illness. 	<p>4</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>Manager/All staff</p>
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<p>Side effects of children receiving a routine vaccination or teething</p>	<p>Children</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Childhood vaccines may cause mild fever in children. This is a common and expected reaction, and isolation is not required unless coronavirus (COVID-19) is suspected. Further information is available in what to expect after vaccinations and vaccination tips for parents. 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, the child should start self-isolating and be tested. One of the main symptoms of COVID-19 is a high temperature and so we cannot accept any children who require or have been given Calpol (paracetamol) in case it is masking a temperature. 	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Manager/All Staff/Parents and Carers</p>
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Workforce	Staff and children	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We encourage staff to become fully vaccinated • Staff who are symptomatic or have tested positive for Covid-19 must not attend the setting and must strictly follow the self isolation guidance • There may be circumstances where an adult who would normally be exempt is directed to self-isolate by TTP. These circumstances will be identified by TTP on a case by case basis. • Consideration should be given to limiting the number of staff in the nursery at any one time to only those required to care for the expected occupancy levels on any given day • Practitioners will receive clear communication regarding the role they play in the safe operating procedures and all measured being taken to ensure the safety of the children and themselves. 	3	3	9	Manager/All staff

<p>Workforce -Training</p>	<p>Staff and children</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff members will receive appropriate instruction and training in infection control and the standard operating procedure and risk assessments within which they will be operating 	<p>4</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>Manager/All staff</p>
<p>Parent -Physical Distancing</p>	<p>All service users</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>25</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only parents who are symptom free and or have completed the required isolation periods will be able to drop off or collect their child We will arrange drop off and pick up at the nursery entrance to avoid parents entering the nursery unnecessarily and to minimise the risk of transmitting infection When parents are waiting to drop off or collect their child we will encourage physical distancing We will consider allowing parents to enter the nursery for the purpose of settling in sessions if not doing so would cause a child distress. The manager will consider measures to minimise contact between the parent and other children and staff members. 	<p>5</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>Manager/All staff</p>

<p>Visitors -Visits</p>	<p>All service users</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance to the setting will be restricted to children and staff as far as practically possible and visitors will not be permitted to the nursery unless essential (e.g. essential building Maintenance, inspectors, learning support assistants, ALN support etc). During operating hours, only essential visitors are permitted to access childcare settings. We will facilitate parents/carers visiting a setting in the evenings (outside normal operating hours) or during quieter periods of the day. 	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Manager/All staff</p>
<p>Hygiene and Health and Safety -Hand washing</p>	<p>Staff and children</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children and staff will wash their hands upon arrival at the nursery for 20 seconds Children and staff members should be encouraged to wash their hands frequently 	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Manager/All staff</p>
<p>Hygiene and Health and Safety -Cleaning</p>	<p>Staff and children</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An enhanced cleaning schedule has been implemented that includes furniture, surfaces and children’s toys and equipment Cleaning routines including times, dates and name of person responsible for the cleaning will be 	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Manager/All staff</p>

					<p>recorded</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communal area, touch points and hand washing• facilities will be cleaned and sanitised regularly• Bins will be emptied, cleaned and disinfected• regularly throughout the day.• Additional cleaning and disinfecting will be• undertaken of areas when someone who is symptomatic has come into contact with• Steam cleaning will be used for items that cannot be cleaned using detergents or laundered e.g. soft furnishings				
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Hygiene and Health and Safety -Waste Disposal	Staff and children	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All waste will be disposed of in a hygienic and safe manner Waste from areas where possible cases of COVID- 19 have been will be disposed of in accordance with the Infection Prevention and Control for Childcare Guidance. 	3	2	6	Manager/All staff
Hygiene and Health and Safety -Laundry	Staff and children	1	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All items within the setting requiring laundering will be washed in line with NHS laundry guidelines Items such as towels, flannels and bedding will not be shared by children 	1	1	1	Manager/All staff
Hygiene and Health and Safety -PPE	Staff and children	2	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PPE will continue to be worn as normal for nappy changing, cleaning routines, kitchen and the administration of first aid in accordance with the Infection Prevention and Control for Childcare Guidance. 	1	1	1	Manager/All staff
Premises -Building	Staff and children	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate Health & Safety checks will be conducted prior to opening and closing We will keep windows open where possible to ensure ventilation 	2	1	3	

<p>Premises -Resources</p>	<p>Staff and children</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All resources required for play and learning experiences of children will be regularly washed and/or sterilised 	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Manager/All staff</p>
<p>Supplies Procurement and monitoring</p>	<p>Staff and children</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The setting will ensure an adequate supply of essential supplies and contingency plans are in place to minimise the impact of any shortages of supplies. The setting will not be able to operate without essential supplies required for ensuring infection control A monitoring system for the usage of PPE is in place to ensure that a supply of stock is available to all who require it as and when required to meet the operational needs of the setting. When stocks are low, other options will be considered, such as the use of washable tabards. These items will be washed at a high temperature and separate to any other nursery washing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the case the supply of food is interrupted, procedures will be implemented to ensure that appropriate food alternatives are sourced and normal food safety and hygiene processes are followed. 	<p>4</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>Manager/All staff</p>

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Spread of infection	Staff and children	4	3	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spillages of bodily fluids are cleaned up immediately and disposed of in line with Infection Prevention and Control for Childcare Guidance. • We will encourage children to cough or sneeze into their elbow and use a tissue to cover their mouths where possible • Children will wash their hands after they have coughed or sneezed • Children who have displayed symptoms of coronavirus must self-isolate for required amount of time as directed by TTP 	4	2	8	Manager/All staff
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Room	Drop Off Area	Time	Release/Pick up Area	Time
Baby Room	Main entrance (front)	7am 8am 9am	Main entrance (front)	1pm 3pm 6pm
Toddler Room	Back door	7am 8am 9am	Back door	1pm 3pm 6pm
Pre-School	Back door	7am 8am 9am	Back door	1pm 3pm 6pm

*signage remains in place to encourage parents/cares to continue to socially distance during drop off and collection

