

COVID-19 POLICY

Policy Statement

It is our intention to welcome back children in to the setting following the countries lockdown during the COVID-19 pandemic. Lydlynch Pre-School would like to make this transition into the setting, post lockdown, as easy as possible for the children whilst adhering to the guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) and the Government.

Aim

- To help and protect both staff and children.
- To provide an environment that is safe and welcoming to the children to maintain a level of normality whilst adhering to Government guidelines

Drop off / collection

- The pre-school will be staggering drop off and pick up times to ensure social distancing is maintained and so that not all children enter and leave at the same time. We would like to encourage parents / carers to talk to their children and prepare them for their return to pre-school.
- 2 metre markers will be set out in the car park; parents / carers and children will be expected to adhere to the social distancing rule outside the pre-school premises keeping 2 metres apart. Parents / Carers will not be permitted to gather outside the pre-school.
- Entrance will be via the infant school's car park entrance. The team will then be at the garden gate ready to welcome the children in.
- Parents / Carers will need to leave the children's lunchboxes on the trolley situated by the gate.
- A member of the team will take the children's temperature at the garden gate using a digital thermometer. If a child's temperature reads over 37.8 then the parents / carers will need to take their child home.
- The children will wait with the team in the garden area until all of the children have been marked in the register.
- At the end of the day children will be read a story in the shaded area in the garden, the car park gates will be opened and parents / carers are asked to stand at the marked areas in the car park adhering to the social distancing rules. Children will be handed out to parents / carers as they arrive.
- If your child is leaving at 11:30 a member of the team will bring them down to the car park gate.
- If your child is starting at 12:45 a member of the team will collect them from the car park gate.
- Only one parent / carer is to drop off and collect the children at any one time. The pre-school recommends that the same person consistently drops off and picks up the children, however, we understand that this isn't always possible.

Transport and travel

- Please note the advice of safer travel guidance. We ask that children attending the pre-school do not travel to pre-school utilizing public transport.
- If your child or any other members of their immediate family have travelled abroad during the COVID-19 pandemic we will need to be informed of dates and that you have self-quarantined in line with the current guidance.
- Parents / carers and team members need to inform the pre-school if members of their household have plans to leave the country from 1st June until 22nd July 2020.
- To achieve reduced transmission please ensure that children, young people and parents / carers outside pre-school only mix in a small, consistent group and that the small group stays away from other people and groups.
- Team members are asked to adhere to the Government guidelines and only mix with members of their household to reduce the risk of exposure.

Environment

- Lydlynch Pre-School will continue to provide care and education in small bubbles with a maximum of 10 children per bubble. The pre-school aim to keep this bubble consistent with the same adults and children throughout the day where possible.
- At pre-school, all carpets and rugs have been removed, and the premises has been thoroughly cleaned.
- The pre-school have removed all soft toys, fabric cushions and dressing up.
- The pre-school has reduced the number of toys that are out at any one time and will change them over on a rotation schedule.
- The pre-school toys are regularly sterilised after play, as are the surfaces, chairs and tables.
- There will be no sand, mud, or sensory play during the seven week period to reduce the risk of cross contamination.
- The children will be given their own amount of playdough and encouraged not to share. This will be disposed of at the pre-school.
- There will still be water play.
- Due to the fact that sterilising books will ruin them, books have been separated into boxes. These will be rotated on a weekly basis. This will ensure that the books are given more than the 72 hour period that it takes to the virus to die on unsterilised surfaces.

Lunch and snack times

- The pre-school is unable to offer hot dinners between 1st June and 22nd July 2020.
- Lunch is to be provided by parents / carers in a named plastic Tupperware type container / lunch box. If unavailable, then please use an easily wipeable named lunchbox.
- Lunch boxes will be wiped down by a member of the team after drop off and stored in the pre-school room.
- Snack will be prepared by a member of the team into individual bowls. Children will be asked to sit in a designated area, marked out using a floor mat, and the snack will be handed out to them. Snack will take place outside, weather permitting.
- The children will eat lunch inside, set up like a picnic. The children will have designated areas, marked out using a floor mat, to adhere to social distancing.
- The team will have staggered lunch breaks to ensure that there is only one person in the kitchen at any one time.

Promoting positive hygiene practices

- We have implemented additional hand cleaning routines at pre-school and will be promoting the importance of hand cleaning.
- The team will ensure that the children are washing their hands at least 20 seconds each time throughout the day, particularly:
 - upon entering pre-school
 - after sneezing or coughing
 - before and after handling or eating food
 - after going to the toilet
- We will also be placing warm soapy water in all communal areas for the team and the children.
- We would appreciate it if parents / carers could explain the importance of hand cleaning to their children and encourage it outside of the pre-school.
- The pre-school emphasizes good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach. Parents / carers are asked to encourage this behaviour with their children outside of pre-school.
- Lydlynch Pre-School have implemented a rigorous regular cleaning routine consisting of sterilising frequently touched surfaces. This is done before opening, after drop off times and at the end of business.
- Parents / carers / carers need to advise the pre-school if they are going to arrive outside the usual drop off times, this is to ensure that foot traffic is minimised after sterilisation.
- Sun safety – Children need to come to pre-school with a named sun cream lotion and a named hat that will always remain at pre-school. Parents / carers / carers need to apply sun cream prior to arrival at the setting, staff will then top up during the sessions using gloves.
- PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) - The children will not be required to wear PPE in the setting. The team will not be required to wear PPE in the setting unless they are preparing food, changing nappies, cleaning or applying sun cream. The pre-school will ensure enough supplies of PPE are stored such as disposables gloves, aprons and face masks, should we need them such as in the case of a child falling unwell whilst on site.

Unwell children / family members

- For the wellbeing of staff and children in our care it is imperative to minimise contact with individuals who are unwell therefore please do not bring your child to pre-school if anyone within your household is showing any symptoms of COVID-19.
- If any member of a child's household becomes unwell with a continuous cough, temperature or loss of taste and smell, then the whole family will need to isolate for 14 days in line with government guidance.
- If any child becomes unwell with the above symptoms, they will be sent home. Whilst the child is awaiting collection, they will be placed in isolation with a member of staff away from others until they are picked up. It is vital we are able to get in touch with parents / carers immediately; therefore parents / carers must ensure that the pre-school has their most up to date contact details.
- If you are showing symptoms of COVID-19 it is highly advised that you seek medical help and are tested to confirm if you have contracted the virus. You are required to make pre-school aware of this.
- If a member of a child's household tests positive for COVID-19 the parents / carers must inform the pre-school immediately and keep their child home for two weeks to

comply with the government's isolation guidance and minimise the risk of exposure to the team and other children.

- If a member of the staff team or one of the children that attends the setting tests positive for COVID-19 the pre-school will close with immediate effect and remain closed for two weeks. Parents / carers will be contacted by a member of the management team as soon as we have confirmation that the child or team member has tested positive.
- Any children living with a person who is at increased risk of severe illness, or an extremely vulnerable person who is shielding from coronavirus, should stringently follow the guidance on social distancing and minimise contact outside the home, such children are not to attend the setting.

Personal belongings

- The pre-school has an abundant supply of resources, we therefore ask parents / carers to ensure that their children do not bring toys from home and that they explain this to their child prior to attending.
- If the team discover that a child has brought a toy from home it will have to go into a special box in the office, this includes taggies and comforts.
- All parents / carers must provide at least 2 items of spare clothing in a sealed bag, closed 24 hours prior to attendance. We will happily store these at pre-school for you, this is to minimize the transmission of COVID-19.
- Any soiled clothing will be returned home and a fresh bag of clothes will need to be provided.
- All parents / carers must provide a named sun hat and bottle of suncream that will remain in pre-school until the end of term as stated under **'Promoting positive hygiene practice.'**

Communication

- To ensure that parents / carers adhere to social distancing and the pre-school can operate a smooth conveyor belt system when children are dropped off at pre-school there will not be enough time to handover information to the team. If you need to inform a member of the team of anything please either call the pre-school (02380 863176) or email the manager (sam@lydlynchpreschool.co.uk).
- Parents / carers can also use Tapestry, the online learning journal, to communicate with the team.

Helpful Links & Resources

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): safer travel guidance for passengers](#)

[Opening schools and educational settings from 1st June – Guidance for Parents and Carers](#)

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Signed on behalf of management committee:

Sarah Haynes – 28/05/2020

Review date:

July 2020