

Covid 19 Policies and Procedures **The Children's Ark Pendeen**

Following the latest government guidelines (1st April 2022), this document aims to outline The Ark's policies and procedures to minimise the risk of Covid 19 within our nursery setting and community.

Latest guidelines from the Government can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-safely-with-respiratory-infections-including-covid-19>

This policy will be updated regularly in line with government guidelines. We expect staff to familiarise themselves with this document and guidelines throughout, and families and caregivers can also help in reducing the risk of Covid 19 within our setting by looking at this document provided and being up to date with the latest guidelines.

As Early Years providers we will continue with our high levels of care and education for children at The Ark, ensuring we implement a good level of hygiene throughout the day and aiming to reduce contact for both families and staff with anyone displaying symptoms of Covid 19.

Day to day care within the setting

Staff will continue to wash hands regularly whilst assisting the children with their activities, as well as children being asked to wash their hands more regularly throughout their day; upon entering the Ark, moving areas i.e coming from outside, before and after eating/drinking, and after using toilets.

Staff will also continue to regularly clean all areas of the nursery setting, including toys and books that are used by the children at the end of each day and between sessions.

Can we continue to ask that children do not bring in their own items/ toys from home other than spare clothes etc within their bag and their lunchbox/ water bottle labelled with their name in order to reduce cross contamination of belongings and play equipment at The Ark.

Attendance of children with symptoms

In order to protect both children in our care and our Staff, we continue to advise parents/caregivers of children showing the following symptoms of Covid 19, to remain off from Nursery whilst they are displaying symptoms:

- A new continuous cough
- High temperature
- Loss or change to sense of smell/taste

We also advise that children who are generally feeling unwell with cold symptoms or sickness bugs stay at home until they have recovered to stop the spread of other unwanted germs and bugs throughout the setting and ensure other children are able to attend our care safely.

Children showing symptoms of Covid 19 during their session at The Ark

If a child becomes unwell during their time at The Ark, we expect the child to be picked up as soon as possible, with the aim of reducing the risk of spreading infection as much as possible. Children who

test positive to stay at home for 3 days minimum whilst minimising contact with others as much as possible. They can return as soon as they feel well enough after 3 days have passed and as long as they do not have a raised temperature without the use of paracetamol or ibuprofen. The first day of symptoms or date of test if no symptoms arise is counted as day zero.

Staff showing symptoms of Covid 19

Although regularly testing is no longer advised from the Government, we hope that Staff will continue to stay at home if they show signs of Covid 19, in order to minimise the disruption of other children/ staff contracting Covid. They should stay at home for 5 days minimum whilst minimising contact with others as much as possible. They can return after 5 days as long as no fever remains without the use of paracetamol or ibuprofen. The first day of symptoms or date of test if no symptoms arise is counted as day zero.