

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR RETURN TO PRE-SCHOOL AFTER COVID 19 SHUTDOWN

Assessed by Judith Sumner 26th May 2020 **Reviewed by Jane Harriss February 2021 (all amendments in red).**

Threat	What are the hazards to Health and Safety?	What risks do they pose and to whom?	Risk level H/M/L	What precautions have been taken to reduce the risk?	Risk level H/M/L	What further action is needed to reduce the risk?
World wide Pandemic virus Covid 19	The threat of infection from the virus Covid 19, which can cause serious illness and death.	<p>Staff: All staff are at risk of contracting the virus from each other, the children and parents/visitors to the setting. Some staff have underlying health issues which make it more dangerous to them.</p> <p>Children, as stated in government briefings, are less likely to have severe health issues from Covid 19. However, they may transmit the virus or they could take the virus home to family members who are more at risk.</p>	H	<p>With reference to the Government guidelines (see Appendix 1), the Senior staff, led by Kathy Crouch, Manager, set up an action plan Appendix 2) to form the safest way of working within our setting. Firstly it was decided that vulnerable staff would not work in setting until it was deemed safe to do so. REVIEW: Plans are now in place for all staff members to be operating in the building by April 2021. A plan was then established to make sure those children and staff who would be returning could be as safe as possible. These measures include –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We continue to operate in 2 bubbles. This is enabling us to limit mixing between children and minimise the spread of the Virus. • Each group to use a different access point to the building, one adult only per child. REVIEW: We continue to operate with separate entrances and exits for each bubble to minimise contact between groups and parents. • Children and staff to wear clean clothes every session then attend. REVIEW: This action is no longer deemed a requirement. • All areas stripped of toys which are considered to be high risk of infection, and other toys reduced to a minimum to insure ability to keep clean. REVIEW: This practise is still observed with the full system of controls in place for cleaning. 	M	<p>Vigilance is needed at ALL times to follow the guidelines. We will need to keep abreast of any new announcements from the Government, and act on these when guidance changes. REVIEW: Arrangements have been under constant review and all changes in Government guidelines have been adhered to. We are keeping copies of all letters/ memo's/ amendments sent to parents in our designated Covid 19 risk assessment file.</p>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All areas and toys used to be thoroughly cleaned before the next group of children is in contact with them, including handrails =, doorknobs etc. • Each group of children to have allocated toys, and equipment that will remain with them during their time. REVIEW: This practise has been extremely effective and has allowed a wide range of resources to be used. • Toilets to be cleansed after any use. • Parents and carers to be vigilant about the health of the children and themselves, and follow government guidelines on isolation when needed. • Hand washing will be encouraged, ensuring the children use running water and soap and drying them thoroughly. Children have their hands sanitised when moving to a new area. • PPE will be used if a child displays any symptoms of Covid 19, they will be sent home as quickly as possible, and removed from contact with other children. • The introduction of face masks to be worn in all communal areas of our building (Kitchen/ office) to further safeguard our staff. • A new office area has been created in the corner of a classroom in order to allow our Admin Officer and Manager to socially distance from each other. • LATERAL FLOW TESTING is now available to our staff (March 21) and staff are testing each Wednesday and Sunday at home in order to safeguard the team and children. All results 		
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				<p>are being submitted to the Government results site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As our numbers have returned to a more normal footing, we have staggered our bubbles lunch times in order to minimise the number of children in the lunchroom at any one time.• Documents and signage will be displayed to support staff and parents/carers in keeping the children and themselves infection free. (examples in appendix 4)• Any visitors will not be permitted to enter the premises, and staff will maintain social distancing. REVIEW: It has been necessary to invite several maintenance workers into setting over the last 4 months. All appropriate PPE has been worn by workers and staff to minimise risk.• VACCINATION PROGRAMME- As the national roll out progresses we now have over half of our staff vaccinated (first jabs only) as a further measure of protection.• The reintroduction of our Mums and Tots group will be discussed during April 2021. This will be able to take place inside with a set number of parents and under 5 year olds.		
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