

Coronavirus Update Parents' Guide Updated April 2022

Keeping Safe

What will Hove Village Day Nursery be doing to protect children, staff, and families?

We have put in place extensive measures that are designed to keep families and staff as safe as possible during time spent at Hove Village. None of us can prevent Coronavirus, but we are trying to do all we can to take the best possible safety precautions.

We will be continuing to follow the Coronavirus procedures that have been in place whilst we have been providing childcare to Key Worker children, and prior to lockdown. We know that all staff, families, and children must work together to ensure that everybody is kept safe and we thank you for your support with this.

The key procedures that we are following are:

- Excellent hand hygiene must be maintained by all children, families, and staff
- Enhanced cleaning of areas and especially touch points will be maintained
- Parents to use the designated area for drop-off and pick-up
- Children's health will be carefully monitored

Are you encouraging testing of staff?

Regular Testing for education staff has now been removed by the Government (unless in the case of a local outbreak). Staff who present with the updated symptoms of Covid will be asked to stay away from the Nursery for 5 days unless they are able to present a negative test.

Key Points

The Government has now removed the legal requirement for self-isolation and regular testing. They have issued guidance on Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

The NHS have updated the list of symptoms of Coronavirus to 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.

What to do if your child has symptoms

Your child should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have symptoms of COVID-19 and they either:

- have a high temperature
- do not feel well enough to go to school, college or childcare, or do their normal activities

They can go back to childcare when they feel better or do not have a high temperature.

If your child has mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat or mild cough, and they feel well enough, they can go to school, college or childcare.

Encourage your child to cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when they cough or sneeze, and to wash their hands after using or throwing away tissues.

Most children who are unwell will recover in a few days with rest and plenty of fluids.

There is guidance for people with COVID-19 symptoms and other respiratory infections on GOV.UK.

There's more advice about how to look after yourself at home if you have COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19

FAQs for Families

What should Clinically Vulnerable Children do?

- Shielding advice was paused nationally from 31st March. All Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) children should attend their setting unless they are one of a very small number of children under paediatric or other specialist care and have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend. CEV children returning to a setting should have an Individual Risk Assessment in place. Individuals in this group will have been identified through a letter from the NHS or from their GP & may have been advised to shield in the past.
- Clinically vulnerable (but not Clinically Extremely Vulnerable) people are those considered to be at a higher risk of
 severe illness from Covid-19. A small minority of children will fall into this category, and parents should follow
 current Government and medical advice if their child is in this category. Children who are clinically vulnerable or
 have underlying health conditions but are not clinically extremely vulnerable, may continue to attend settings
 subject to their individual risk assessments.
- COVID-19: guidance for people whose immune system means they are at higher risk GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

We live with a Shielded or Clinically Vulnerable Person, what should we do?

- If a child or member of staff lives with someone who is clinically vulnerable (including those who are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable), including those who are pregnant, they can attend Nursery.
- Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, but who are not clinically extremely vulnerable themselves, should still attend settings, subject to their individual risk assessments.

We have recently travelled abroad as a family, what should we do?

Families who have been travelling abroad should refer to current guidance: <u>Travel to England from another country during coronavirus (COVID-19) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

This information was correct at the time of publication, according to Government guidance. Please regularly check Government websites for the latest information on shielded or clinically vulnerable children or persons, and on changes to international travel rules.

Your Childcare

Will you comfort my child if they are upset?

The emotional well-being of each child is paramount and although social distancing must be observed where possible, we will comfort a child if they need it. We understand that children may find it harder to settle back into Nursery after having enjoyed so much time with their families and will support them as fully as possible.

Can my child have their comforter?

If your child has a blanket, please supply these, and keep them as clean as possible. Comforters will be available for children when they need them and when not in-use they will be kept in the child's bag or box to prevent other children accessing them.

If your child uses a dummy, please supply at least two so a spare one can be kept on-hand in a Milton style solution.

Unfortunately, we will not be allowing any toys brought from home into our Nurseries.

We are requesting that parents and carers follow the steps outlined below:

- Adults must not to enter the setting if they are displaying any symptoms of coronavirus & that children are not to be brought to setting if they are displaying any symptoms of coronavirus.
- Parents and carers closely monitor children for signs of Covid-19 symptoms in line with NHS guidance.
- Parent and carers should observe drop-off and pick-up arrangements which have been organised to minimise adult to adult contact. This includes staggering drop-off and collection times for children.
- Parents should maintain two metre distancing when they drop-off and collect children, whilst maintaining safeguarding/visual controls.
- Parents must not gather at entrance gates or doors or enter the site (unless they have a pre-arranged appointment, which should be conducted safely).
- All adults and children must clean their hands-on arrival at the setting.
- Parents should not leave buggies, car seats and scooters at the setting. If they are essential, they must be left outside
 in the designated storage area.
- Parents and carers should observe hygiene expectations and wherever possible discuss with children.
- All adults and children clean their hands according to guidance on hand cleaning.
- Parents and carers should follow current NHS guidance regarding isolation.
- We would encourage parents and carers to exercise caution at arrival and drop-off with regards to wearing facemasks, but these are not mandatory.