



York Childcare: Josephs /Scarcroft Green / Heather's Nursery Risk Assessment

Epidemic & Pandemic Diseases COVID19 Operational Return

THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND & NHS GUIDANCE AND ADVICE.

Area of risk	Possible Hazards	Group of people especially at risk	Controls	Risks which are not adequately controlled. What action would you take where possible to reduce the risk
Premises	Spread of COVID19 & other diseases	Parents, children & Staff	<p>Where premises have been temporarily closed during the lockdown period or where they may need to temporarily close during future lockdowns appropriate Health & Safety checks should be conducted prior to reopening including legionnaires checks.</p> <p>Keep windows and doors open where possible to ensure good ventilation.</p>	<p>Water systems have been flushed through on a weekly basis during closure so testing will not be required.</p> <p>Secure grills/fasteners may need to be installed on some doors/windows to reduce risk of intruders accessing building.</p> <p>Staff to ensure children are dressed appropriately should the room be cooler than usual.</p>
Hygiene Hand washing, cleaning, waste disposal, laundry etc.	Spread of COVID19 & other diseases	Children & Staff	<p>All children and staff must wash their hands upon arrival at the nursery.</p> <p>Children and staff members should be encouraged to wash their hands frequently. Children & staff will use paper towels to dry their hands.</p>	<p>Daily risk assessments and checks revised to ensure adequate measures have been taken.</p>



			<p>An enhanced cleaning schedule must be implemented that includes furniture, surfaces, and children's toys and equipment.</p> <p>Communal area, touch points, such as door handles, light switches, handrails, and hand washing facilities must be cleaned and sanitised regularly.</p> <p>All waste must be disposed of in a hygienic and safe manner. Tissues must be immediately disposed of.</p> <p>All items within the setting requiring laundering must be washed on a high setting.</p> <p>Items such as towels will not be used, and bedding must not be shared by children.</p> <p>Children should be supported in age appropriate ways to understand the steps they can take to keep themselves safe including regular hand washing and sneezing into a tissue.</p>	
Health & Safety & Risk Assessments	Spread of COVID19, infections, diseases, accidents etc.	Staff & children	<p>All activity should be risk assessed and due consideration given to any adaptations to usual practice.</p> <p>This will include the suspension of learning experiences involving materials which are not easily washable such as malleable materials and the suspension of the sharing of food and utensils.</p>	Activities should be organised to allow as much space as possible between children and staff (including mealtimes)



<p>PPE</p>	<p>Spread of infection</p>	<p>Staff, children & parents</p>	<p>Government guidance is that PPE is not required for general use in early years settings to protect against COVID- 19 transmission.</p> <p>Where staff request PPE, they must adhere to the guidance on safe use and removal of masks.</p> <p>PPE should continue to be worn as normal for nappy changing and the administration of first aid.</p>	<p>W.H.O adapted guidance on the when and how to use masks.</p> <p>Further information and guidance can be found at www.who.it</p>
<p>Supplies</p>	<p>Spread of infection</p>	<p>Staff & children</p>	<p>The manager & staff should 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 safely without essential supplies required for ensuring infection control.</p> <p>A monitoring system for the usage of PPE is essential 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.</p> <p>Other options may be considered, such as the use of washable items. These items will be washed at a high temperature and separate to any other nursery washing.</p> <p>In the case the supply of food is interrupted, procedures must be implemented to ensure the appropriate food alternatives are sourced, and normal food safety and hygiene processes are followed.</p>	<p>Central stock to be maintained at head office/Josephs.</p>



<p>Attendance</p>	<p>Spread of COVID19</p>	<p>Parents</p>	<p>Only parents who are symptom free and or have completed the required isolation periods will be able to drop off or collect their child.</p> <p>Aim to limit drop off and pick up to 1 parent per family and stagger the timings where possible. Families to be allocated drop off/ collection times at peak times.</p> <p>Arrange drop off and pick up at the nursery entrance to avoid parents entering the nursery unnecessarily.</p> <p>When parents are waiting to drop off or collect their child, social distancing should be maintained in a safe area.</p> <p>Consider allowing parents to enter the nursery for the purpose of settling in sessions if not doing so would cause a child distress. The staff should consider measures to minimise contact between the parent and other children and staff members.</p> <p>Parents should be encouraged to ensure they do not leave travel accessories including buggies, car seats, scooters at the setting premises.</p>	<p>Parents should receive clear communication regarding the role they play in the safe operating procedure and all measures being taken to ensure the safety of their children, staff, and themselves.</p> <p>Where possible staff will provide daily update via email/telephone/Tapestry to reduce time taken to complete handovers.</p> <p>Queues will be away from the main direction of entry / exit where other parents will be coming in & out.</p> <p>Nursery cannot accept responsibility for any items which are left outside the building.</p>
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<p>Attendance</p>	<p>Spread of COVID19</p>	<p>Staff</p>	<p>Staff should only attend the nursery if they are symptom free, have completed the required isolation period or achieved a negative test result.</p> <p>Wherever possible staff and parents should travel to the nursery alone, using their own transport.</p> <p>If public transport is necessary, current guidance on the use of public transport must be followed.</p> <p>If using public transport staff should travel in their own clothes and change into their uniform once on the premises.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>All staff members must receive appropriate instruction and training in infection control, use of PPE, the standard operating procedure and risk assessments within which they will be operating.</p>	<p>The health of returning staff will be discussed during a return to work interview.</p> <p>Staff will work in fixed teams caring for a set group of children wherever possible.</p> <p>Relevant training links provided e.g. The Virtual College. Completion of training to be checked in return to work interview.</p>
<p>Attendance</p>	<p>Spread of COVID19</p>	<p>Children</p>	<p>Only children who are symptom free or have completed the required isolation period should attend the setting.</p> <p>If using public transport to get to nursery children should be changed into clean clothing once on the premises.</p>	<p>Children who develop a high temperature during the day will be sent home.</p> <p>Parents and staff to agree suitable changing area within nursery where</p>



				parent could change child and immediately hand over to staff.
Attendance	Spread of COVID19	Visitors	Attendance to the setting should be restricted to children and staff as far as practically possible and visitors should not be permitted to the nursery unless essential (e.g. essential building maintenance).	Where essential visits are required these should be made outside of the usual nursery operational hours where possible. Virtual tours are being developed to enable new customers to view settings.
Social Distancing/Group work	Spread of COVID19	Staff	<p>Wherever possible staff should remain with the small group of children who they are allocated to and not mix with other groups.</p> <p>Social distancing must be maintained during breaks. This may be achieved through a range of strategies including the staggering of breaks and subdivision of spaces allocated to team breaks where possible.</p> <p>Staff members should avoid physical contact with each other including handshakes, hugs etc.</p> <p>Where possible, meetings and training sessions should be conducted through virtual conferencing.</p> <p>Where possible access to the kitchen should be limited to the cook.</p>	<p>Emergency revisions to the EYFS have been implemented which provides some flexibility on ratios and qualifications to support this where possible. Initially staff shift patterns will be revised to prevent/reduce the need for lunch breaks by implementing a shorter working day when staff are in contact with children.</p> <p>Identify one other person per team who can access the kitchen at times when cook is not present.</p>



<p>Social Distancing/Group work</p>		<p>Children</p>	<p>Children are usually organised into small groups or rooms within nursery. Wherever possible these small groups should not mix during the day.</p> <p>Routines including provision of meals, nappy changing, and toileting should be within the space allocated wherever possible.</p> <p>The use of communal internal spaces should be restricted as much as possible.</p> <p>Outdoor spaces should be used by different groups of children at different times of the day.</p> <p>Distancing of beds/cots should be facilitated wherever possible</p>	<p>Aiming to group U2s in groups not exceeding 9. Some toddlers may be included in these groups if suitable. *</p> <p>Aiming to group O2s in groups of between 10-16 children with 2-4 staff in accordance with ratio requirements.</p> <p>Sizes of group may need to vary if staff availability is limited and as numbers of children attending increase. No group to exceed 16 until further easing of restrictions is announced. Risk assessment to be reviewed at that time.</p>
<p>Resources</p>		<p>Children & Staff</p>	<p>Children should not be permitted to bring items from home into the setting unless essential to their wellbeing. Where this is the case items should be appropriately cleaned upon arrival.</p> <p>All resources required for play and learning experiences of children should be regularly washed and/or sterilised.</p>	<p>Staff members required to clean items as they are used on an ongoing basis throughout the day.</p>



			<p>Activities which may spread infection such play dough; salt dough and gloop will not be used for the duration of the pandemic.</p> <p>Equipment used by staff such as stationary, tablets etc. should be allocated to individual staff members where possible and cleaned regularly.</p>	
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Wellbeing		Staff & children	<p>Staff need to ensure they are aware of children’s attachments and their need for emotional support.</p> <p>Children should be supported to understand age appropriately the changes and challenges they may be encountering because of Covid-19.</p>	Stories/picture books are available free to download.
Suspected Case of COVID19	Spread of COVID19	All	<p>In the event of a child developing suspected coronavirus symptoms whilst attending the setting, they should be collected as soon as possible and isolate at home in line with the NHS guidance.</p> <p>Whilst waiting for the child to be collected they should be isolated from others in a previously identified room or area if possible.</p>	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings-including-the-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-ppe



			<p>Where possible, a window should be opened for ventilation.</p> <p>The staff member responsible for the child during this time should be a staff member from their room/area. The manager may consider suitable PPE for this staff member.</p> <p>If possible, the area should not be used for 72 hours after the child has been collected.</p> <p>The area should be thoroughly cleaned, immediately if the area cannot be left unvisited, and if the area can be left unvisited then cleaned after 72 hours.</p> <p>The person responsible for cleaning the area should wear appropriate PPE.</p> <p>In the event of a staff member developing suspected coronavirus symptoms whilst working at the nursery or they have had contact with a suspected case at nursery, they should return home immediately and isolate at home in line with NHS guidance. The staff member should undergo testing and self-isolate for 14 days if they receive a positive test.</p>	<p>Outside areas to be used as waiting area where possible.</p> <p>Parents must call 111 to arrange for their child to be tested.</p> <p>Nursery manager to notify all parents and staff by email of any suspected cases.</p> <p>Should there be a confirmed case the nursery will notify Public Health England and follow the instructions as given by them. Instructions may require closure of the nursery for 14 days: in certain circumstances closure may be limited to one specific small group.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contacts-phe-health-protection-teams#north-yorkshire-and-the-humber-hpt</p> <p>Staff are entitled to tests through an online portal.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested#arrange-a-test-if-youre-an-essential-worker</p>
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			<p>The appropriate reporting procedures to the relevant bodies must be followed. As the test and trace system is in place, we as an organisation will comply with government guidance.</p>	<p>The Government Test & Trace system is now in place. The manager will inform parents of any actions to be taken and will provide clarification on organisational decisions.</p>
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Assessment undertaken by:	
Signed:	
Position:	
Authorised by:	
Assessment review date:	

*At JN the proposal is to have a group of children based in the U2's room/annexe together. Although this group would be primarily be U2's, if making regular use of the Annexe, the group size could increase to a maximum of 16 children on occasions to enable siblings to remain together in the same group, which will help to reduce the number of contacts children have.