



## **Covid-19 Policy**

To all staff, children and parents

### **Introduction**

This policy applies to all employee's including parents, children.

### **Purpose of the Policy**

To protect all employee's at Mini Munchkins nursery including parents and children, from encountering Coronavirus (COVID-19).

To maintain the minimum level of staff needed to continue to provide early years education service and to meet the welfare and care needs of the children who attend the setting.

To ensure that the prevention of the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) remains at a minimum risk.

### **Nursery Closure**

At any time that it is felt necessary to prevent the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) and to ensure the health and safety welfare of all employee's, children and parents , Mini Munchkins will continually monitor the risk factor of keeping the setting open as a viable option, and may so at any time, revert to a closed status, with no children permitted on site, to a partially closed status, where setting places may well be limited to, but not excluding, vulnerability, age, need of care, critical key worker status of parents, special educational needs (SEND), children whom have an EHCP plan in place, children in care, children who have a social worker allocated to them already.

### **Monitoring**

Mini Munchkins Nursery is closely monitoring and gathering information from the Department of Health England, The Department of Education, our Local Authority ( Croydon council) and any and all guidelines delivered and updated through official government sources constantly to ensure that we have the most up to date information and work place practises concern the spread and containment of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).



This includes all training and delivery methods to all employee's, Directors and any other third party associated with the running or participation with Mini Munchkins Nursery.

Mini Munchkins nursery reserves the right to make all changes to this document to uphold guidance of safe working practises and delivery methods for the early years education sector.

## **General**

- Employees are always advised to practise strict hygiene and cleanliness procedures.
- Employee's must wash their hands at regular intervals for a minimum of 20 seconds using soap and warm water.
- Employees are advised to cough or sneeze into their elbow when a tissue or other vessel cannot be reached in time and are then to always wash their hands afterwards.
- Employees are advised to avoid contact with others, such as handshakes and are to maintain a social distance of 2 meters (6ft)
- Employees are to avoid touching their eyes, nose, and face whilst on the premises and whilst children are in their care.
- Employee's must wash all their uniform before entering the premises for their next shift. This must include the cleaning of all appropriate footwear.
- At the end of each day, all employee's must steam clean and sanitise all surfaces, toys, fabrics, toileting areas, outdoor areas and equipment, ready for the following days usage, this includes all outside toys to be stored away in secure storage containers at the end of every working day and before weekend/holiday period closures or closures for health and safety measures.
- Only disposable towels, provided for by Mini Munchkins, will be permitted for use whilst on the premises.
- No prams, scooters, bikes, or any other items are to be left at the setting at any time.
- Please be aware that your children will meet both staff members and other children attending the setting during the session times. Although every measure will be taken to ensure that your child has minimal contact with others, children of the early years age group will inevitably want to hug and touch others through play or when needing comfort. Therefore, it is vital that not only we will adhere to best practise hygiene policies throughout the day, but that parents can also support this by changing their children into different clothing when they return home and placing that days clothing in the wash. If your child needs comfort, our staff will comfort them and will do their absolute best to make sure that all their social, emotional and wellbeing is met whilst in attendance at Mini Munchkins.



## **Hygiene on Arrival**

- All parent's, children, third party associates and service users must adhere to the floor markings when entering our site and must not cross over these markings until instructed to do so by a member of the staff/Directing team. Parents will always be given an allotted time slot to drop off their child to allow for social distancing to be maintained. Only the parent(s) of the child may collect the child and one other, in case of work commitments/emergencies. This will reduce the social contact to help keep the welfare and safety of our staff a top priority.
- Staff will greet parent's wearing the appropriate PPE equipment, as supplied by Mini Munchkins nursery, when accepting your child onto the premises. This will include disposable gloves, face mask and apron. These will be disposed of after every use.
- All parents and children must use our one-way system when entering the grounds near our building which will be clearly marked, when dropping off and collecting children.
- No bags are to be brought from home into the setting. Your child must attend every day with the minimum requirement for the weather forecast for that day only. This could be, but not an exhaustive list of, weather sensible footwear, a coat, jumper/cardigan/t-shirt, pants, skirt, or shorts. Please assess the weather conditions before your child attend the setting each day. Only the minimum number of belongings will be allowed within the premises to minimise the spread and coming into contact of the coronavirus (CORVID-19).
- If your child stays for a lunch and brings in pack lunch, all food and drinks containers must be of a disposable nature, must come in a disposable bag and will be thrown away by our staff when used who will follow strict hygiene and storage policies. Children will be given drinks and healthy snacks as normal during the day using our items which are sterilised daily.

## **Hygiene during the day**

- Children will be actively encouraged to wash their hands after every activity or after playing in a specific area. We will use water and hand soap for this with a minimum wash time of 20 seconds per child, demonstrating good modelling behaviours for the children to see best practise when doing this. After an activity/toy playing session has ended, all equipment/toys shall be cleaned after every use.



- Children's temperatures will be taken upon arrival to the setting and throughout the day. If upon arrival, your child is displaying a temperature of 37.8 degrees, has a new cough, looks generally unwell or is displaying any other signs associated with coronavirus (CORVID-19) then your child will be excluded for a period of 14 days for self-isolation following the Department of Health England and the governments guidelines at present. You will be given a date of when your child can attend again. Your child must not attend the setting before this date has expired. This will then help to control the spread of the virus within our setting. Should your child get tested during this time period, and a negative test comes back before the expiration of the allotted time, then providing you consent to give a copy of this for insurance purposes, your child may then attend sooner.
- Should you or an adult present with symptoms within your household, then you have a duty of care to inform the setting at your first available opportunity and without unreasonable delay. Should you fail to do this, your place within the setting maybe terminated without notice.
- Children will still be allowed to collect their own snack on their plates using the tongs provided which will be cleaned before each new child uses the equipment. The same process will be followed when the children access milk and water during snack time. This will help to promote confidence and motor skills whilst maintaining best practice with hygiene procedures.
- Not more than two employees at any one time, will be permitted into the staff office unless there is a specific reason why this guidance should be changed. The office will be cleaned during and at the end of every day.
- At snack, nappy changes/toileting help and any other close contact with the children, staff will be required to wear the appropriate PPE equipment as supplied by Mini Munchkins Nursery.
- All employees will have a designated area to hang belongings, along with a lockable area for high value goods such as purses, phones etc. Staff leave all belongs at their own risk whilst on the premises and Mini Munchkins accept no liability for loss or damage currently.
- Staff are only permitted to bring one small bag, if necessary and a coat. No other items from home shall be permitted in the setting during this time.
- Both the kitchen and toileting/nappy changing areas will be regularly cleaned and sanitised during the day by all employees.
- Staff will only be permitted to bring a lunch in a disposable container. No dual use or multiple use containers/vessel will be allowed on the premises.

### **Hygiene upon leaving**

- Parents/or designated carer's must only attend the setting at the allotted time given.



- All parents must remain on the social distancing stickers until called forward by a member of staff to collect their child.
- All staff members will be wearing Mini Munchkins issued PPE protective equipment when handing over your child at the end of the day.
- If your child comes home in spare clothing from the setting. Please can you ensure that this is washed and returned to the setting upon your child's next attend session.
- Once your child has been collected, please leave the premises by following the route laid out in front of you. Please do not remain outside of the building for any other reason.
- If you require to talk to the staff regarding your child's attendance, a telephone consultation will be arranged for you.
- If you are required to sign an accident/incident form from an occurrence that may have happened that day, a staff member will bring you the relevant form when you collect your child.
- All children will be walked individually with a member of staff with their belongings and will be ready to go immediately. Please bear in mind the social distancing rule of two meters in-between groups of people from outside of your household and to exit swiftly from the setting to maintain other parent's rights to accessing the setting at their allotted times also. This will also help to minimise contact for all visitors of the setting.
- If you require you child to go home with the use of a pram or other aid, can we please ask that you move away from the building, following the designated route, and only when safe to do so by following social distancing rules, then access the desired equipment that you need.

Adapted August 2020

M.Turner