	
Name:	Date written:
COVID-19 Policy	4/3/22
Written by:	Review Date:
Emma Holmes/ Louise Lloyd-Evans	This policy is updated each time the government issue new guidance. Last update: 31/3/22
Policy Statement	
<p>This policy is in place to ensure Young Friends Kindergarten adheres to government guidelines in relation to keeping staff and children safe during the Coronavirus pandemic.</p>	
Aims and Purpose	
<p>COVID-19 has had a devastating global affect. It is everyone’s duty to adhere to the legal guidance of the country they reside in. Due to the unstable nature of the virus, guidance in the UK has been ever-changing and regularly updated. These are the current procedures in place to keep our setting as safe as possible.</p> <p>As of 24/2/22 the Government’s objective in the next phase of the COVID-19 response is to enable the country to manage COVID-19 like other respiratory illnesses, while minimising mortality and retaining the ability to respond if a new variant emerges with more dangerous properties than the Omicron variant, or during periods of waning immunity, that could again threaten to place the NHS under unsustainable pressure.</p> <p>However, government advise is, if you have COVID-19, stay at home and avoid contact with other people. If you have COVID-19 you can infect other people from 2 days before your symptoms start, and for up to 10 days after. You can pass on the infection to others, even if you have mild symptoms or no symptoms at all.</p>	
Applicability	
Children Staff Families	
Definition of Terms	
<p>Coronavirus – Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a contagious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The first known case was identified in Wuhan, China, in December 2019. The disease has since spread worldwide, leading to a global pandemic.</p>	

Overview

The Government
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Safer behaviours

Procedures

The Government

From April 1st 2022 the Government guidance is:

- adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature
- children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend
- adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days

Young Friends Kindergarten

At Young Friends Kindergarten, we have been advised by our Local Authority and the government. **Our procedures are as follows....**

- If any staff or children test positive for COVID-19 they should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. For children, this should be for 3 days and adults, 5 days.
- If any staff or child has a persistent cough and is unwell with a temperature they should be at home, regardless of the diagnosis.
- Those who test positive for COVID-19 are strongly advised to:
 - limit close contact with other people outside their household, especially in crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces
 - wear a face covering in crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces and where they are in close contact with other people
 - limit contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19 (including not visiting those in care homes or hospitals)
- Anyone who is living with people who have been in contact with COVID-19 should limit close contact with other people outside their household, especially in crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces
- Government guidance is: Children and young people who usually attend an education or childcare setting and who live with someone who has COVID-19 should continue to attend the setting as normal.

Safer behaviours (government advice)

At Young Friends Kindergarten we will adopt the government 'Safer Behaviour' measures to ensure we keep the spread of COVID-19 to a controllable, safer level. Throughout the pandemic, Government advice and information has been informed by the best scientific evidence available from health agencies, academics, and experts.

Individuals can still reduce the risk of catching and passing on COVID-19 by:

- Getting vaccinated
- Letting fresh air in if meeting indoors, or meeting outside
- Wearing a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces, especially where you come into contact with people you do not usually meet, when rates of transmission are high
- Trying to stay at home if you are unwell
- Taking a test if you have COVID-19 symptoms, and staying at home and avoiding contact with other people if you test positive; and
- Washing your hands and following advice to 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'.

External Links and Organisations

COVID-19 Response: Living with COVID-19 - [COVID-19 Response: Living with COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/covid-19-response-living-with-covid-19)

COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts - [COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts)

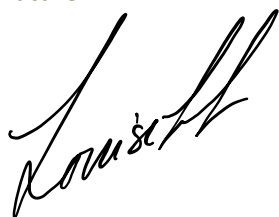
Contingency framework: education and childcare settings - [Contingency framework: education and childcare settings \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/collections/contingency-framework-education-and-childcare-settings)

Relevant Policies and Documents

Sickness Policy
Parent Carer Code of Conduct
Revised Risk Assessment for EY Settings

Authorisation

Signature:



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