



Situated in the grounds of:-

Rushcombe First School
Hanham Road
Corfe Mullen, Wimborne
Dorset, BH21 3PX

Tel: 01202 690800 in school hours

Coronavirus Response Policy.

Our staff team have met and discussed operational procedures with respect to minimising any risk from Coronavirus or other similar pandemic.

The following are their recommendations:

Dropping off and collecting children

- **Only one parent or carer** must accompany their child to nursery or arrive to collect their child, and this person must not currently be displaying Covid-19 symptoms or be required to self-isolate due to a person in their household displaying covid-19 symptoms or testing positive for Covid-19.
- Upon arrival at the nursery parents are asked to **queue using 2m social distancing** to either the **bottom of the steps** (Catherine's group) or to the bottom of the patio steps using the **new gate** in the picket fence (Kirsty's group) where they must **wait to be greeted by a member of the staff team**. Parents must keep their child and any siblings with them whilst they queue and not allow them to rush to greet their friends or use the nursery outdoor equipment.
- A member of staff will greet parents at the bottom of the slope and **the child's temperature will be checked**. Any child whose temperature is outside of normal range ie 38° or above will not be allowed to attend nursery and will be asked to self-isolate at home following the current government guidance.
- All of our **staff will also have their temperatures checked** on arrival at work and will not be allowed to work if they have a raised temperature that could indicate a fever, and will be asked to self-isolate at home for the required 7-day quarantine period.

We are aware that temperature checking is not a fail-safe measure for preventing transmission of Coronavirus and hasn't formed a part of the guidance that nurseries have been given. However, we feel that it gives us another tool, and a possible indicator of infection source in the nursery that may be avoided. Checks will be done initially with digital non-contact thermometers.

Should anyone show a raised temperature, this will then be double-checked using a standard thermometer.

- If a child is upset when they reach the front of the queue, we will need the parent to advise us if they are happy for us to take the child. We will of course be extremely sensitive to any anxiety and will use all of our experience to reassure children and distract them from any fears. Parents are of course welcome to ring and check in to see if their child has settled, and we would contact them if our normal methods aren't working and their child is remaining very distressed. In this case we can make a decision if it will be better for them to collect them and take them home.
Parents who do not wish for us to take their child into nursery whilst they're still upset will be asked to either re-join the back of the queue and try again, or take them home and try again on another day. This is to assist us in reducing queueing time as much as possible for all parents.
- **Parents will be not be allowed to enter the nursery building.**
- If parents have any important information to pass to the nursery staff they will need to send this **via email** to catherine@montessorinurseries.co.uk (or stacey@montessorinurseries.co.uk on a Friday) **before arrival**, or pass a note to staff on arrival at nursery, or if they need to speak to someone in person we will book an appointment for them to do this in the nursery outdoor area for a mutually convenient time. We will not be able to have lengthy discussions with parents in the queue as this will cause unnecessary hold-ups.

Nursery Procedures

- We will continue to uphold **stringent cleaning and hygiene practices** within the nursery including
 - implementing **washing hands** more often than usual and helping our children to develop good hand washing practice
 - ensuring good **respiratory hygiene** by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
 - **regularly cleaning** frequently touched surfaces and equipment
 - **hand sterilisation gel** will be available on site to supplement regular hand washing with soap and water
- There will be a more **limited range of equipment** available to enable careful cleaning and hygiene
- Soft toys and furnishings, and things that cannot readily be cleaned will be removed and put into storage
- We will be **suspending our normal book loan service.**

- Children **must not bring toys or personal items from home** into nursery, including spare clothes as we have plenty of these on site. If a child has been sent home wearing any items of nursery clothing these **must be washed** and returned to nursery as quickly as possible.
- All children must now bring **a named and easily identifiable water bottle** to nursery which will be available for their use throughout the day. Children will be asked to bring their normal packed lunch in an insulated named lunch box if they are attending with us for lunch or tea. All nappies, wipes and creams will be provided by the nursery.
- We will be continuing to provide activities such as sand and water play, but with **extra cleaning of equipment** in place to minimise risk of infection.
- We will be organising as many activities as possible in the **outdoor environment** as this also helps to minimise risk of infection. Once all children have arrived, we will be **keeping the nursery doors open** as much as possible to allow for free-flow play in the outdoors and provide **good ventilation** to the nursery building.
- Social distancing with this age-group is just not possible or appropriate. We are very aware that our children may need extra reassurance, hugs and cuddles and we do not intend changing our practice in this respect.
- We have been advised by the NDNA that it is **not necessary** for our staff to wear face masks or PPE in nursery unless they are carrying out any activities where we would normally ask them to do so e.g. caring for a child who has developed symptoms in nursery whilst waiting for a parent to collect them. Face masks are not appropriate for use in very young children as they can cause breathing difficulties and problems with cross-contamination, so children will not be taken in to nursery wearing a mask.

What happens if someone becomes unwell in the nursery?

If any child becomes unwell with any of the following symptoms:

1. New, continuous cough
2. A high temperature
3. A loss or change to sense of smell or taste

We will contact the parent urgently to come and collect their child.

They will be supervised by a member of our team in the nursery quiet room and we will of course minimise any anxiety by distracting with toys and books until the parent arrives. The room where the child has been isolated will be thoroughly cleaned once the child has been collected.

Although the child will then be required to self-isolate for 10 days, all members of the child's household must then self-isolate for 14 days, which means that the child will not be able to return to nursery until the end of this quarantine period unless someone not living in the household is able to bring them to nursery.

All staff and children who are attending nursery will now have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario. Where the child or staff member tests negative, they can return to their setting and their fellow household members can end their self-isolation.

If a child or staff member receives a positive test result, we will contact Public Health England who will conduct a rapid investigation and advise us of what we should do next. Where settings are observing guidance on infection prevention and control, which will reduce risk of transmission, closure of the whole setting will not generally be necessary.

Please do click below to read the Government's detailed document giving guidance to households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infections:

[Stay at home guidance](#)

Reassuring children's happiness and wellbeing

We need to assure parents that we will be doing everything in our power to provide a safe, happy and fun environment for their children to return to. We are very aware that there may be high levels of anxiety for both parents and children, and want them to feel confident that we are following all of the very latest guidance regarding reopening safely.

AUGUST 2020.