



# FOREST VILLAGE KINDERGARTEN

## COVID-19 Guideline

Forest Village Kindergarten's key priority at all times is the health, safety and wellbeing of the children in our care, their families and our staff. In specific regard to the current pandemic, we are operating to our own comprehensive and regularly updated COVID-19 policies regarding infection control, and we will also continue to introduce additional measures in line with the latest guidance from the NHS, Public Health Bodies, and government.

In line with government and NHS recommendations we have put many additional measures in place, which include those relating to Kindergarten access restrictions, social distancing, and hygiene practices.

At drop off and pick up times we are asking parents to hand their child to a member of staff at the nursery entrance and remain a 2 metre distance from other parents. We are putting the same measures in place at the end of the day when parents arrive to collect their child. We have also looked at our staff areas and provided guidance to our staff on how to implement social distancing in the Kindergarten. We recognise that social distancing for our Kindergarten represents a challenge for young children who like close contact with adults and other children and we want to reassure you that we won't stop hugging children when they need a cuddle or some reassurance.

No staff member who has COVID-19 symptoms, (or who has a member of their family displaying symptoms) will be admitted into Forest Village Kindergarten until they have either completed self-isolation in line with government guidance or have had a test and tested negative. Parents will be asked to confirm at the nursery entrance that neither their child nor anybody in their household is displaying any COVID-19 symptoms such as a new continuous cough or a high temperature of 37.8°C or more. Non-essential visitors are not permitted at the Kindergarten. As we are sharing the premise with the Merton rugby club regular hygiene and cleaning measurements are in place to prevent infections. We will do regularly cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and objects that are frequently touched by children and adults. These include high-risk contact areas such as door handles and doors, toys and children's resources, light switches, taps, toilet flushes, sinks, countertops. We have removed activities which could pose a risk for cross contamination, such as play dough and sand/water trays. As well as ensuring that staff and children are cleaning hands more often than usual, we are ensuring good respiratory hygiene



by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach to any coughs or sneezes. Children will be supported to ensure they wash their hands properly.

Staff will wear PPE when very close contact is required such as at drop of and pick up times, nappy changing and also if a child becomes unwell during the day and needs to go into the Isolation room. Staff can wear PPE throughout the day if they wish to.

If children or staff develop any symptoms such as a new continuous cough or a high temperature of 37.8°C we will take immediate action. Staff will be asked to return home immediately, self-isolate and seek a test. For children we have a dedicated Isolation room where they will be taken and cared for by a member staff who is known to them until a parent can come and collect them.

We ask parents to retain their usual vigilance around not sending their child to Kindergarten if unwell, unless it is a very minor illness.

