



NORTHLEACH PLAYGROUP

Mill End, Northleach, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL54 3HJ

Registered Charity No. 1015852

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Introduction

This Policy applies to all employees, parents, children, volunteers, students and everyone else working on behalf of Northleach Playgroup. This Policy also applies to service users and delivery drivers visiting the Playgroup.

Purpose of Policy

Protect all employees and service users including parents and children from coming into contact with Coronavirus (COVID-19)

To maintain the safety of staff, so they are able to provide the welfare needs of the children in our care.

To maintain the safety of staff who have been shielding, they are confident and secure to return to the setting.

To prevent the spread of Coronavirus (Covid-19)

Playgroup Opening Procedure – September 2021/**February 2022**/**April 2022/23**

The Playgroup is open from September 6th 2021 to all children, parents and staff. All staff will return to the setting, they will read and sign the back to work procedure as well as their consent to follow the NHS Track and Trace system and take part in lateral flow testing twice a week.

Track and Trace ended, staff to continue to test twice a week till lateral flow kits need to be paid for on 1st April.

Staff to have the choice to buy lateral flow kits, advised to test if have any of the recognised symptoms: High temperature, cough, loss of smell and taste, cold like symptoms.

Adults to isolate for 5 days if suspected or confirmed case

Children to isolate for 3 days if suspected or confirmed case

Updated September 2021/Feb 2022/April 2022/23

Parents prior to returning will read the Playgroup's re-opening procedure, they will agree to abide by the new rules put in place. Parents will also consent to testing their child if they show symptoms and following the NHS Track and Trace system.

[New parents to sign a consent form agreeing to the Playgroup's Covid rules.](#)

Parents to be made aware that any child who shows signs of being unwell will either not be allowed to enter the building or sent home immediately.

The Playgroup would prefer children are kept away if a member of their immediate family tests positive. Parents informed of this rule, a discussion can take place if needs be.

[April 2022: Children do not need to be kept away from Playgroup if a member of their immediate family displays symptoms, if a positive result is confirmed through a test, then parents to be mindful of vulnerable staff and will be advised to keep their child at home if it is possible.](#)

Parents to be made aware that the Playgroup will close if there is not enough staff to ensure child safety.

Numbers in a session may be reduced to keep the staff/child ratio safely adhered to. Priority will be vulnerable children followed by pre-schoolers.

Parents to be allowed back into the building at drop off, if child is new or unsure. Parents may enter building to pick up their child at the end of the session, (through side door and exit through main door, to avoid congestion)

Social distancing is still advised, face coverings are now optional.

Settling in sessions to be held in the garden (weather dependent) if needed. Ideally 1 or 2 parents to visit the setting and 1 parent to help with the settling in.

[Settling sessions can take place inside.](#)

The Playgroup will ensure good hygiene practices are in place and toys are cleaned and disinfected regularly.

Monitoring

The Playgroup is closely monitoring and gathering information from The Department of Health to limit the spread of Coronavirus. Playgroup is following advice from The Department of Education and The Early Years Sector.

Service Providers have a duty of care to communicate with Northleach Playgroup if any staff or family/friends contract COVID-19, or are made to self-isolate.

Outbreak Management Plan

See separate sheet

Hygiene

Employees will practice good hygiene and cleanliness standards.

The staff/children will wash hands with soap and water at regular intervals throughout the day.

Hand sanitiser will be available throughout the setting.

Cover mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing with a tissue, hands to be washed afterwards.

Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.

Frequently touched areas are cleaned several times a day e.g door handles, switches, telephone, laptop.

Toys are cleaned regularly.

If an employee/parent/child experiences any of the following symptoms the Playgroup will be informed immediately, they will self-isolate and contact 111/119 for advice if needs be.

High temperature
Shortness of breath
Continuous cough
Loss of smell and taste

Signed on behalf of Management Committee

Role of Signatory (e.g. chairperson etc)

Updated September 2021/February 2022/April 2022/23

