

## General Welfare Requirement: Suitable premises, environment and equipment

Outdoor and indoor spaces, furniture and toys must be safe and suitable for their purpose.



## Health and safety

### Virus, Disease and Pandemic Policy

#### Policy statement

Hollyfield Preschool Nursery provides a welcoming, stimulating and secure environment where children and families from all backgrounds and cultures are valued. We respect children's rights, listening to children and putting their needs at the heart of our work. Our inclusive nursery community works together to promote equality, encouraging and supporting each child to develop their potential and sense of identity. We develop our children's curiosity and challenge them to achieve their best and become self-confident and independent learners. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all children and expect our staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

#### EYFS key themes and commitments

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
1.3 Keeping safe 1.4 Health and well-being		3.3 The learning environment	

#### Our Nursery Values 'SPARKLE'

**S** – We provide **Security** which enables **Self-belief**. This in turn makes each child feel **Special** which gives **Strength** of character.

**P** – **Practitioners** teach with **Passion** and support children in being **Playful, Persistent** and **Proud** learners

**A** – We help children to successfully **Adapt** to new environments and routines. This means children feel secure to **Actively Achieve** their goals.

**R** – Practitioners strive to have positive and open **Relationships** with all families who come to nursery. We support our children to be **Responsible** and **Resilient** learners

**K** – Our children are **Keen** learners who show **Kindness** to all around them with support from our positive behaviour systems. Children are **Knowledgeable** about their rights and help each other to stay safe as well as express their feelings.

**L** – Our **Leadership** is robust and fosters a **Loving** environment both for practitioners and children to have a **Love for Learning**

**E** – We ensure **Equality** which supports **Empowerment** in taking steps in our own learning. Children and staff are **Enthusiastic** and **Eager** to keep learning.

### **The UN Convention on the Rights of the child**

This policy is in accordance with the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

#### **Article 3 (best interests of the child)**

The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

#### **Article 6 (life, survival and development)**

Every child has the right to life. Governments must do all they can to ensure that children survive and develop to their full potential.

#### **Article 12 (respect for the views of the child)**

Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.

#### **Article 19 (protection from violence, abuse and neglect)**

Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

#### **Article 23 (children with a disability)**

A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and, as far as possible, independence and to play an active part in the community. Governments must do all they can to support disabled children and their families.

#### **Article 24 (health and health services)**

Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

#### **Article 28 (right to education)**

Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

## **Procedures**

We will adopt health and safety arrangements under Virus, Disease and Pandemic, in line with Health & Safety legislation and in consideration of Government and Local Authority guidelines.

Hollyfield Preschool Nursery will apply and communicate sensible risk management and safe working practices.

- Regular assessment of hazards and associated risks
- Implementing preventive and protective control measures against those risks to an acceptable level
- Monitoring the effectiveness of those measures by the senior management team
- Provision of information, instruction, training and protective equipment to staff
- Review of risk assessments, policies, procedures and practices at regular interval and where additional information is gained through changes in government guidance, monitoring or following an incident.

Ensure that staff are informed and instructed to ensure competence and awareness of health & safety precautions required during COVID-19. All staff are required to show a proper concern for their own safety and for that of the people around them, exercising due care and attention and observing safe working methods.

### **Draw up a rigorous and robust risk assessment covering the following points**

- Communicate regularly and effectively with staff and parents about Hollyfield Preschool Nursery's response to COVID-19. For example, daily hours may need reducing, the number of children who are admitted may change, parents may still be asked to pay fees, staff may have reduced or furloughed hours etc. Further actions may be added as and when necessary to fall in line with legislation or to protect the settings staff, children and parents
- Educate children about COVID-19 and to encourage and re-assure them about the measures in place to protect themselves from it in an age/stage appropriate manner.
- Put in place the support required for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in line with education health care (EHC) plans in conjunction with families and other agencies.
- Put in place measures to check on staff wellbeing (including for senior management team).
- Draw up contingency plans for deep cleaning in the event of an outbreak of COVID-19 on site.
- Provide appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) as required for staff.
- Put in place arrangements for the continuing education of those children who must self-isolate through sharing online learning opportunities
- Measures to reduce the risk of infection

### **Children who are self-isolating due to contact with a Covid positive person**

- A child will not return to nursery until 10 days from when the Covid test was taken.  
This is to keep all who use the setting as safe as possible and reduce the possibility of spreading the virus

### **Children with any symptoms should be kept at home**

- Children with any symptoms (a high temperature; A new, continuous cough; A loss of, or change to, sense of smell or taste) should be kept at home
- If a child becomes unwell at nursery for any reason, staff reserve the right to ask parents or carers to collect them immediately as symptoms are not always as mentioned above.
- Staff may ask you to get your child a Covid test if they feel this might be necessary. If as the parent, you do not want to get a Covid test for your child when a staff member is asking you to, then your child will still need to remain at home for 10 days. However, if you do decide to get a test for your child and it is negative, they can then return to nursery straight away, but proof of the test results would be needed.
- Staff will wear PPE when caring for a child displaying symptoms or unwell for any reason
- Parents or carers will be asked to arrange a test for their child
- If they have a negative test result the child can return to nursery when feeling better
- If the test result is positive, they should self-isolate for 10 days and the child's household is to self-isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms
- If a child tests positive for coronavirus, we will contact the Local Health Protection Team for advice.
- The staff and any individuals in the child's bubble may be sent home to self-isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms

### **Staff who are symptomatic should not attend school**

- All staff who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, should not attend nursery under any circumstances.
- If staff develop coronavirus symptoms, or generally feel unwell, they will be asked to arrange a test
- Symptomatic staff can return to nursery after 10 days if they test positive and as soon as they feel well if they test negative

### **Frequent hand cleaning and respiratory hygiene practices**

- Children will wash their hands on arrival, before and after eating, before departure and frequently throughout the day and before leaving (sometimes this may be an antibacterial spray gel)

- Staff will wash their hands on arrival, before and after eating, before departure and frequently throughout the day and before leaving (sometimes this may be an antibacterial spray gel)
- **Essential** visitors (including parents & carers) to wash hands on arrival and wear a mask and the staff member dealing with the visitor will also wear a mask
- Vulnerable staff can wear a mask at their own discretion but **MUST** wear a mask when travelling around the school premises for dinners etc.
- All staff can wear a mask at their own discretion but **MUST** wear a mask when face to face with parents at the doors on drop off and arrival times
- Boxes of tissues will be available & staff will encourage children to blow noses

### **Thorough cleaning**

- Thorough cleaning of all surfaces, touch points, doors, floors, toilets and sinks at end of each day
- Frequently touched surfaces cleaned by staff throughout the day
- Toilets & wash basins cleaned at lunchtime as well as at end of day
- Resources cleaned regularly

### **Ventilation & learning outdoors**

- Doors and windows kept open to ensure good ventilation
- Children encouraged to be outdoors as much as possible

### **Minimising contact**

- Children kept in room bubbles and not mix with children in other bubbles
- Staff to be kept in their own room bubbles unless absolutely necessary, in which case a **MUST** wear a mask
- Only essential adult visitors allowed inside the nursery building
- Staggered start & end times for each room
- One way system in place with floor markings to indicate
- Adults to maintain 2 metre social distance with other adults with floor markings to indicate
- Communication exchanged with parents mainly via email and telephone, Tapestry and Facebook
- No induction 'stay and play sessions' carried out and information shared via telephone or conference calls
- Parent consultation meetings conducted by telephone or conference calls
- Essential adult visitors (including parents & carers) to wash hands on arrival & wear a face covering on nursery premises
- Staff may choose to wear PPE (face coverings, visors, gloves and aprons)

Please also refer to Hollyfield Preschool Nursery Covid-19 Risk Assessment (this can be found on the nursery website [www.hollyfieldnursery.com](http://www.hollyfieldnursery.com))

### **Legal Framework**

- Ongoing Covid government guidelines (.gov)

### **Further guidance**

- Ongoing guidelines from the Local Authority
- Ongoing guidelines from Dfe
- Ongoing guidelines from Nursery Entitlement Funding team

This policy was adopted at Hollyfield Preschool Nursery's Staff meeting in March 2020

Date to be reviewed – Ongoing

Signed on behalf of the management team –

Name of signatory –

Role of signatory -