

Covid-19

INTRODUCTION

It is important that staff implement additional procedures in line with the government's guidance and recommendations to prevent the spreading of Covid-19 and continue to make the setting a safe environment for children, staff and families. It is equally important that parents and carers do their part to support the Playgroup in the implementation of this policy for the Health and Safety of all the children that attend, their families and our staff.

GOALS - What are we going to do?

- Pencaitland Playgroup aims to maintain a healthy and hygienic environment for children, staff and families and prevent the spread of Covid-19 within the setting.
- The setting will ensure that additional procedures are in place and adhered to, in line with the government's guidelines and recommendations to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

These procedures will include:

- » Extensive cleaning of surfaces and toys.
- » Effective hand washing practices.
- » Identifying and temporarily excluding sick children and staff.
- » Social distancing of adults in and around the setting
- » Effective handling, storage and disposal or washing of soiled items
- » The use of personal protection equipment where needed.
- » Social distancing is not expected between children in and around the setting
- » Staff will continue to offer care and comfort to the children without the need for social distancing.

STRATEGIES - How will it be done?

Staff (&/or Committee members as appropriate) will:

- Wear clean clothes every day and will ensure that the belongings they bring into the setting are wiped clean with antibacterial spray and are stored in a cupboard away from the children.
- Limit the number of children to 8 per session as to remove the need for a parent helper and therefore reduce the number of adults within the setting.
- Addition of an outdoor area to enhance distancing and increase ventilation.
- Ensure that the children have supervision and support to ensure proper hand washing throughout the session including on entry to/exit from the playgroup, before and after eating, after playing outside, after coughing/sneezing/wiping nose etc, after going to the toilet.
- Collect children individually from the door and check their temperature (with an Infrared Thermometer – non-contact) before entry. If a child's temperature is above normal, staff will ask

parent/carer to take them home and remain at home until it returns to normal or if they develop COVID-19 symptoms, 14 days following this.

- Contact parents immediately if they suspect a child is displaying any COVID-19 symptoms (high temperature/ persistent cough).
- Inform all parents should it be deemed that a child at the playgroup has developed the virus.
- Sign-in individual children to register their attendance.
- Communicate with parents electronically, using emails/facebook parents & carers group.
- Children's artwork should not be sent home with the children until it is safe to do so.
- Ensure that toys and surfaces are cleaned and disinfected throughout and at the end of each day.
- Ensure that all essential visitors remain outside. Visitors, such as contractors, will only be allowed to enter the building only once children and staff are gone.

Parents and carers will be asked to:

- Have only one adult per child/household present at drop off/collection.
- Inform Playgroup via email (info@pencaitlandplaygroup.co.uk) **and** phone call (01875 341 356) if anyone in your household is displaying symptoms, and keep your child home from Playgroup in line with the government guidelines.
- Ensure that both they and their child use hand sanitiser before entering the setting.
- Ensure that they and their child line up in accordance to current government social distancing guidance at drop off and collection.
- Ensure their child does not bring any toys or dummy into the setting unless this has been agreed with the Play Leader (Katy).
- Where a comforter/dummy is likely to be highly beneficial to the child in settling back in to the setting, we ask this is freshly cleaned/disinfected and handed directly to a member of staff in a sealed container/ziplock bag.
- Apply water resistant factor 50 sun cream to their child before bringing them to the setting (when appropriate).
- Ensure that their child's clothing is washed after every session to minimise the risk of spreading infection.
- Provide their child with a change of clothes in a clearly labelled ziplocked bag that can remain at Playgroup until needed.
- Provide nappies, wipes, creams etc in a clearly labelled zip lock bag that can stay in Playgroup and will last several sessions. This can be replenished as required.
- Do not bring/take away jackets etc to limit the belongings entering and being stored within Playgroup.
- If your child is absent from Playgroup due to suspected Covid-19 they should remain at home in line with the government guidelines or until a negative test has been confirmed.
- Where a child needs to be collected at a time other than the end of the session, parents/carers will discuss this in advance with staff/will phone ahead, and will not just arrive at the door unannounced.

EVALUATION

The safety and well-being of the staff, families and children will be the priority of the setting.

Additional hygiene practices, the use of social distancing between adults and the reduction of group sizes will be implemented by the setting to minimise the risk of contamination and spreading of Covid-19.