

Coronavirus Outbreak Management Plan

Introduction

This document is produced for staff working with the children at Pixies and is a point of reference for families and others visiting the setting. Within this document 'staff' refers to all persons directly involved in the care of children at this setting, irrespective of their employment status, and includes students, trainees, and volunteers. This plan is based on the contingency framework for managing local outbreaks of COVID-19, provided by the Department for Education (DfE).

We implement measures in this plan in response to recommendations provided by our Brighton & Hove local authority (LA), the director of public health (DsPH), Public Health England (PHE) our local health protection teams or by following government guidance.

These measures will be implemented to help prevent the spread of infection within the nursery settings, to manage a COVID-19 outbreak or cluster, to react to high COVID-19 infection rates in the community or when all measures in place are still failing to reduce risk and infection.

Measures to prevent the spread of infection

Since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, Pixies has put in place Safe Operating Procedures and adaptations to our everyday practice to ensure that we can offer our staff and children a safe environment. Hygiene and social distancing continue to be the two key elements of infection prevention and control. Risk assessments are carried out regularly to ensure good practice and to keep up to date with any changes to guidance and/or procedures as published by the Government, PHE or the LA.

We are therefore keeping the following procedures in place:

- Any child, staff member, parent, or visitor with symptoms of covid-19 must not attend nursery and must remain at home until they have received a negative result of a covid test or finished a period of isolation following a positive result, in line with government guidelines. Children with temperatures cannot return until they have been 24 hours fever free, without the need of medication to assist.
- Increased cleaning processes remain in place.
- Bubble systems remain in place in all age groups.
- Parents and staff members will wear masks during drop off and collection at nursery.
- Staff members carry out regular Lateral Flow Device testing.
- Ventilation is a key part of infection control, doors and windows remain open and regular daily outdoor play/activities will be undertaken.

Management of an Outbreak of COVID-19 in Early Years settings

When the Early Years settings have infection cases of children or staff members that reach 10% over a 14-day period this may be referred to as a COVID-19 outbreak. Pixies will take further advice from PHE.

Actions may include:

- A more intense deep clean
- Partial closure of areas in the nursery
- Isolation of identified children or staff members
- Investigation by the LA Health Protection Team

Management of a Cluster in Early Years settings

When there are increased infection cases of children or staff members that are concentrated in one bubble group at an Early Years setting over a 14-day period this may be referred to as a COVID-19 cluster. Pixies will take further advice from PHE. The actions we will take are:

- Look at the possible need to close the bubble group
- As current guidance does not request that Early Years settings isolate and close bubble groups, we are instructing all staff members connected with a positive case to take daily Lateral Flow tests for 10 days
- Any person contacted by NHS Track and Trace must isolate in accordance with government guidance
- Pixies will deploy the staff team effectively to ensure legal ratios continue to be met
- There will remain a Safeguarding Lead, First Aider and Manager on site at all times.

Reaction to high infection rates in the local community

Pixies Childcare ensure that they are up to date with infection records locally.

If contacted by DsPH or the LA regarding a high level of infection in the local community the following actions may be recommended:

- Trips and outings in the area will be limited or stopped completely for all children
- Events and social days at Pixies to be cancelled
- Visitors are not permitted into the setting unless essential to a child's development or well-being or to manage an essential need (ie. site maintenance). Any visitors that are permitted on site must wear full PPE and give their details to allow Pixies to manage contact tracing if needed. Visitors during operating hours will be kept to a minimum.

Actions following high levels of risk and infection

Restrictions to attendance will only be used as a last resort, requests to parents/carers will be presented in the following order:

- If parents/carers can keep their child/ren home to please do so.
- Only vulnerable children and those whose parents are critical workers may attend.
- Only vulnerable children and those with both parents as critical workers may attend.

Pixies wish to remain transparent in all proposed actions and advice that we receive from any of the above-mentioned professionals.