

Magdalene Preschool

Covid 19 Policy - September 2022



This policy outlines the nature of the current COVID-19 / Corona virus and what Magdalene Preschool are doing to stem infection within our setting.

We are taking advice from the Department of Education, Early Years Croydon, The World Health organisation and Gov.uk and Public Health England – Please see relevant link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

- We shall ensure that all members of our Preschool community are kept informed as appropriate, with a particular emphasis on the communication to parents and employees through the website and text message as well as messages on our information board with the latest advice given by the government and information regarding preschool.
- Senior Management will have regular meetings to discuss daily issues regarding children and staff being off due to self-isolation.
- Manager to keep in constant contact with Early Years Croydon regarding funding.

Covid 19 Symptoms

Current NHS guidance states that symptoms of Covid-19 can include:

- a high temperature or shivering (chills) – a high temperature means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste
- shortness of breath

- feeling tired or exhausted
- an aching body
- a headache
- a sore throat
- a blocked or runny nose
- loss of appetite
- diarrhoea
- feeling sick or being sick.

Government guidance states that you should try to stay home and avoid contact with other people if you have Covid-19 and in addition, either have a temperature or don't feel well enough to go to work or do your normal activities. It adds that: "You can go back to your normal activities when you feel better or do not have a high temperature."

If your child has symptoms & what to do

Government guidance states that a child should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have symptoms of COVID-19 and they either:

- have a high temperature
- do not feel well enough to go to school, college or childcare, or do their normal activities.

It adds that: "They can go back to school, college or childcare when they feel better or do not have a high temperature."

If your child experiences Covid 19 symptoms, please test them for Covid 19

If your child tests positive for Covid 19, they need to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days, starting from the day after the positive test.

Government guidance states that: "Children and young people tend to be infectious to others for less time than adults. If they're well and do not have a temperature after 3 days, there's a much lower risk that they'll pass on COVID-19 to others."

If a parent or member of staff test positive for Covid 19, they should

- stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days
- avoiding meeting people at higher risk from COVID-19 for 10 days, especially if their immune system means they're at higher risk of serious illness from COVID-19, even if they've had a COVID-19 vaccine.

Please text or phone to let us know if your child or a member of your household displays symptoms of COVID-19.

Day to day running of preschool

In the event that staff are unable to be at work due to self-isolation or having contracted the COVID-19 virus, other staff members will do their best to cover wherever possible. Magdalene preschool will endeavour to stay open for our normal hours, however this may not be possible due to staff ratio's. Parents will be updated if preschool needs to close early due to not enough staff. It is a safeguarding issue if child to teacher ratios are not correct. Magdalene preschool will aim to stay open throughout this pandemic to support children and working families – unless instructed to close by the Department of Education or Public Health England.

Government guidance states that if high levels of workforce absence mean you need to temporarily prioritise places in your setting (for example, where a setting is unable to operate at full capacity), you should give priority to children of critical workers and vulnerable children, and then three and four-year-olds, in particular those who will be transitioning to Reception, followed by younger age groups.