

# Little Bears Pre-school

## Covid - 19 Policy

It is a Government requirement that Little Bears' Pre-school amends their daily routine and puts in place social distancing measures, where possible. In addition, we are implementing a Covid-19 Policy, Risk Assessment and hygiene protocols in order to make the setting as safe as possible. When your child returns after September 7<sup>th</sup> you must read and agree to adhere, to the following procedures for everyone's safety.

### **SOCIAL DISTANCING**

\*In order for us to protect the staff, families and other children it is vital that you observe all government guidelines with regards to contact with other people outside of your immediate family.

\*Please be aware that it will not be possible to ensure social distancing in Little Bears Pre-school but we will ensure children have adequate space. Also, in line with government guidance, staff and children will not be wearing PPE (except if a child shows symptom whilst at Little Bears pre-school and for nappy changing). Clearly there will be an element of risk for children and staff, which we can work towards to reduce but not eliminate. We will be here to support and comfort your child to the best of our abilities whilst trying to work to the guidelines.

### **HANDOVER**

\*Dropping off and picking up will be at the brown/green gate. We would appreciate if you did not proceed into the pre-school area.

\*Please can you limit dropping off and picking up to one parent/carer.

\*Please stay behind the lines marked out on the concrete for social distancing purposes.

\*During this time and weather permitting we will be encouraging the children into the garden area to begin the session.

\*Please refrain from bringing any unnecessary items with them in this current time- such as toys, umbrellas etc. Please provide a bag of essential items such as spare clothes, wellies, nappies and wipes. This bag will need to be left at the pre-school.

\*Please could your child have a separate bag for their lunch box and drinks as this avoids contact with any soiled or clean clothing and nappy changing items.

### **CLOTHING**

\*To minimise the risk, please ensure that children are arriving in clean clothes. Do not dress your child in clothes from the previous day, even if they look clean. Staff will ensure that they also wear a clean uniform each day.

### **COMMUNICATION**

\*If you wish to talk to a staff member about something that cannot be discussed briefly at the door, we would be happy to arrange a phone call.

\*Unfortunately we will not be sending book bags or diaries back at this time on a daily basis but will send your child's diary home at half terms for you to look at and then return back into the group.

\*If you need to sign paperwork, we will ensure social distancing is adhered to and we will provide a clean pen.

### **VISITORS AND THE OUTSIDE COMMUNITY**

When a new parent wishes to view and visit the group we will make it at a time when it is less disruptive and safe for all children and staff. This will be after a session has finished at the end of the day where possible or near the end of the day when there is less children.

We will also have visitors relating to a child's individual learning from time to time or on a regular basis. Visitors will follow our procedures on Hand washing on arrival and keeping a safe distance from other adults in the group. Hand gel will be available to use in the classroom and in the garden area.

All visitors attending will be made aware of our updated Covid-19 policy and risk assessment.

### **MEDICATION**

\*Please do not bring your child to Little Bears pre-school if they have had any medication administered previously on the same day (with exception of regular prescribed medications such as inhalers or antihistamines). Calpol and Nurofen can and do mask a temperature.

\*If you think your child cannot manage the day without Calpol/Nurofen then they should be at home.

\*If your emergency contacts have changed during the pandemic, for example if you have family members shielding who are no longer able to collect, please inform us of your new emergency contact as soon as your child returns to Little Bears pre-school.

### **SICKNESS**

\*If a child develops symptoms of coronavirus whilst at pre-school they will be isolated with a member of staff, the staff member will be required to wear PPE such as a mask/visor, apron, gloves etc and your child may be required to wear a face mask. They will need to return home immediately and isolate for 7 days and the rest of the household for 14 days, meaning that logistically the child would not be able to return to the setting for 14 days. The government has advised that all staff and children attending childcare settings will have access to a test if they are showing symptoms of Coronavirus. This is to enable them to return quickly to the setting or the setting to re - open quickly if there is a negative result.

\*If the result of the test is positive, every child who attends the setting MUST isolate for 14 days, and the setting must close for 14 days. Family members of those children from the setting who do not show symptoms do not need to isolate unless the child shows symptoms. This is to stop the spread of the virus and this MUST be adhered too. This is government policy.

\*Following a test you must show proof of your child/family member's negative result in order to return.

\*Please understand that if someone in your home is showing minor symptoms, however sure you are that it is not Covid-19 related, you MUST disclose this to Little Bears Pre-school and stay away for 14 days or until tested.

\*If your child is feeling unwell with other symptoms (i.e. other than a fever or cough) please do not bring them to the setting. If you are unsure of whether they can come for whatever reason, or how long they should stay off with an ailment, please contact us beforehand.

\*Any child with a fever over 37.8 at Little Bears pre-school will have to return home. If we feel that it is necessary to take your child's temperature, we will use our infrared thermometer. If your child feels warm at home, please take their temperature before bringing them to avoid any upset or potential spread of infection.

## **CLEANING AND HYGIENE**

\*Children will be taught a good handwashing routine at pre-school, including washing their hands immediately as they arrive, whenever they return in from the garden, before eating, after they have wiped their nose or been to the toilet, and regularly throughout the day using soap and water. You can support this at home by encouraging a good hand washing routine and encourage your child to wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds.

\*Children's hands will be dried using disposable paper towels which will be disposed of.

\*If Children need to blow or wipe their nose, they will be encouraged to do this themselves, dispose of the tissue into a lidded bin and then wash their hands.

\*During the session all key contact points such as door handles, tables, surfaces and toilets will be cleaned with disinfectant.

\*The setting will be deep cleaned every evening. This will involve using disinfectant to spray or wipe all toys and books which have been used, surfaces within the room, all door handles.

**SUNCREAM**

\*Please ensure that you have applied sun cream to your child prior to arrival as we will be trying to spend more time outside and in line with government guidelines it is not recommended that staff apply sun cream to your child.

**ATTENDANCE**

**\*In line with government guidelines, it is advised that children only attend one setting reducing the cross-contamination risk for staff, children and their families. Please contact Little Bears Pre-school to discuss this if your child is already attending another setting or is planning too.**

\*Due to restriction of numbers we will be prioritising children from key worker families and school leavers. Please be aware that Little Bears Pre -school may not be able to accommodate all of your childcare needs at this time.

We will reassess this policy as and when we receive further guidance from government.

Completed 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

Chairperson signature.....

Managers signature.....