



## Kingston Vale Montessori COVID-19 Policy

### About COVID-19

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. This virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is to be well informed about the COVID-19 virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads. We can protect ourselves and others from infection by washing our hands or using an alcohol-based rub frequently and not touching our faces.

### Symptoms:

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

Children are likely to become infected with coronavirus (COVID-19) at roughly the same rate as adults, but the infection is usually mild. If anyone has any of the symptoms above, they should self-isolate at home for 14 days.

### Basic principles:

- Caregivers should alert the school and health care authorities if someone in their home has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and keep their child at home.
- No one with symptoms should attend the setting for any reason.

Following basic principles can help keep students, teachers, and staff safe at school and help stop the spread of this disease.

We follow the government, Department for Education and the local authority guideline for the recording, control and reporting of Covid19.

### Safe school operations from September 2020:

We will ensure, as much as possible, social distancing measures are in place and adhered to keep children, parents and teachers safe by applying the following course of action:

- Only 1 parent to drop off and pick up.
- We kindly ask parents to drop off Children between 9.15am - 9.40am. Parents/responsible adults will not be permitted into the school building during drop-off.
- Parents are encouraged to follow social distancing guidelines at the school door and avoid entering the building.
- Children and staff will have a temperature check each morning.
- At the end of the school morning, the school doors will open at 12.35pm
- parent/carer must always follow the signage and join the queue maintaining social distancing.



- A staff member will be at the school door facilitating the safe departure of each child.
- No adults other than teachers will be allowed in the building during school hours.
- Social distancing measures
- Children will be encouraged to use different areas of the classroom where possible. Outdoor learning will take place to the greatest degree as this can limit transmission and more easily allow for distance between children and teachers. Peripatetic teaching will take place outdoors as frequently as we can. When indoors, we will provide a well-ventilated classroom and a free flow system so that children can access both learning environments. Only 4 children at the snack table at one time.
- Promote and demonstrate regular hand washing and positive hygiene behaviours and monitor their uptake. Children will be invited to wash their hands with hands sanitizer before entering the school and before leaving the premises at the end of the day. We will ensure soap and safe water is available at all times. We will encourage frequent and thorough washing (at least 20 seconds) throughout the day. We will implement targeted health education ensuring content is age, gender, ethnicity, and disability responsive. Learning sessions will include lessons on good hygiene, what germs are and how to stop them spreading.
- Hygiene measures: School building • Clean and disinfect school buildings using disposable cloths and household detergents, according to current recommended workplace legislation and practice. This includes door and window handles, all surfaces, material, tables and chairs plus outdoor equipment. Increase air flow and ventilation when weather allows by opening the garden door and allowing a free flow system. Ensure trash is removed daily and disposed of safely. Post signs encouraging good hand and respiratory hygiene practices. Ensure toilets are cleaned regularly • Hand towels will be replaced by paper towels Ensure toilet bins are removed daily and disposed of safely

**If someone becomes unwell at the setting:**

If anyone in the setting becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home. Please be advised to follow the COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance.

If a child is unwell the setting will follow the following procedure according to government guidelines:

1. Call the parents of the child presenting symptoms. If parents are unavailable, we will keep calling until we reach one of the parents.
2. If a child is awaiting collection, they will be moved, if possible, to another room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, with appropriate adult supervision and ventilation.
3. According to government guidelines, PPE should be worn by the teacher caring for the child while they await collection.
4. In an emergency, we will call 999 if the child is seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk.
5. The teacher who has helped the child or another member of staff with symptoms, does not need to go home unless they develop symptoms themselves (and in which case, a test is available) or the child subsequently tests positive.
6. The teacher should wash her hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after any contact with someone who is unwell. The room and the classroom will be cleaned using disposable



cloths and household detergents -according to current recommended workplace legislation and practice- after someone with symptoms has left.

7. Children will be kept in the garden while door and window handles, surfaces, material, tables, chairs, and toilets are being cleaned.
8. Parents will be notified if a child or teacher has developed symptoms compatible with coronavirus without revealing the identity of the child/teacher. As long as the child/teacher has not tested positive, the setting will continue as normal.
9. Parents will have access to a test if their own child displays symptoms of the virus. To access testing, parents will be able to call 111 if their child is aged under 5 or use the 111 online coronavirus service if their child is 5 or over. Testing is also available to all essential workers as teachers through the gov.uk portal: <https://www.gov.uk/apply>
10. If the child or teacher with symptoms test negative, they can return to the setting and their fellow household members can end their 14 days self-isolation.

**If there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in the setting:**

If anyone in the setting tests positive to coronavirus, we will follow the following procedure:

- Parents will be notified immediately without revealing the identity of the child/teacher.
- The rest of the group will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days.
- We will notify DfE coronavirus helpline Telephone 0800 046 8687
- We will conduct a risk assessment with help from one of PHE's health protection teams.
- As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the cohort, Public Health England's local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise us on the most appropriate action to take. We will notify parents of this outcome via email.
- Where settings are observing guidance on infection prevention and control, which will reduce risk of transmission, closure of the whole setting may not be necessary.

You can be assured that we are putting extra measures in to ensure that all children, staff and parents are protected at our nursery during the pandemic. One thing we can guarantee, is that our nursery is a happy place for your children, therefore we will do everything in our power to ensure that the environment feels as normal, friendly and fun as possible for them.