Risk Assessment Actions and concerns 19th April 2021

In addition to toilet cleaning check list, extra regular cleaning of setting, rotating resources we have included a disinfectant spray for outside resources.

Setting has not been closed for long periods of time, no concern for Legionella due to stagnant water, taps have been running at least once a week (During 6-week summer break) and daily when open. Cleaning and workmen on site.

Poster for Covid-19 early outbreak management changed to DfE amended phone number. System of Control displayed and read by all staff. Refresh/additional discussion about how we feel, what to do etc. at every staff meeting plus individuals at termly supervision – As of 23rd March all team members are taking twice weekly Rapid Antigen tests and reporting to NHS and SH (Lead)

New Parents on site for garden settling in session. This was risk assessed, parents were signed in, sanitise/wash hands and reminded to socially distance. Sam asked all parents prior to visit if they were high risk and none were reported. 3 parents were invited with their child for their first visit to setting to meet key worker, support heightened anxiety about leaving their child the following term and have a look around their new setting. Windows were kept open; some areas were closed and majority of time was spent outside playing.

Assess child minder and other setting status – One child attending two settings, as of 22/09/20 updated document, Government have added section to now include ‘Settings, parents and carers should work through the ‘systems of controls’ collaboratively, to address any risks identified and allowing them to jointly deliver appropriate care for the child’. Child was offered an extra day and has now left child minder to minimise risk – both CM & parent happy with outcome.

New outdoor music area will not have blowing instruments for example recorders/whistles, play microphones will not be used until it is safer to do so and singing will be encouraged at a safe distance and loud voices avoided when indoors.

**Use of private and public outdoor spaces.** Settings should maximise use of private outdoor space.

Settings can take groups of children on trips to outdoor public places and do not need to be [limited to 6 people](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do), provided:

* it is for the purpose of education or childcare
* they remain within the EYFS staff child ratios
* they conduct a risk assessment in advance
* the risk assessment demonstrates that they can remain socially distant (2 metres) from other people and groups, wherever possible
* good hygiene is maintained throughout
* thorough handwashing happens before and after the trip

### Staying in touch with parents or carers whose child is at home

Since 20 June 2020, normal group sizes have resumed so all children should be able to attend as normal, with the exception of those children who may still have to shield.

* to continue to support the learning of children who do not attend settings including how these children can maintain contact with their key person and peers through the early years setting
* parents and carers are supported to provide a positive learning environment at home with regular contact with key person

We will also direct parents to:

* the [Hungry Little Minds](https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/) campaign. It features tips and practical activities that parents can do at home with children to support their early learning. There are many simple ways to help children learn and it does not have to be formal. Having everyday conversations, make-believe play and reading together all make a big difference to children’s development.
* We will also direct parents to the BBC’s [Tiny Happy People](https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people) and the [National Literacy Trust’s Family Zone](https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/) for more ideas and content
* [help children aged 2 to 4 to learn at home during coronavirus (COVID-19)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-children-aged-2-to-4-to-learn-at-home-during-coronavirus-covid-19)

Whitchurch Under Fives work with local authorities to monitor the welfare of:

* vulnerable children who are not attending provision
* other children they might wish to keep in touch with, for safeguarding purposes

### Reviewing and updating child protection policies – See Annex of Child Protection Policy

I have read and understand the updated Covid Risk Assessment – April 2021

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S Condon | S Herlihy | F Jenkins |  K Maker |
| K Chapman | K Foskett | K Derrick | S James |

Child Protection Coronavirus (COVID-19) annex C:

* How to identify and act on new safeguarding concerns about individual children as they return to childcare – The Safeguarding Team along with the key person will monitor well-being, behaviour changes and discuss strategies for support and sign post outside help if needed
* Designated safeguarding lead (and deputy) arrangements. Faye Jenkins is Safeguarding Lead, Stacey Helihy is Deputy, Sam Condon is also part of the Safeguarding team. Should one member become unable to carry out their duties in the setting, remote discussions will be attempted, if this is not possible the two remaining members of the team will take control. If all three members of the team are unable to work due to Covid, the setting will temporarily close until a trained person can be placed by the Committee DSL Amy Tuckwell. Bristol City Council will be informed.
* Any updated advice received from the local safeguarding partners will be relayed to the Team and actioned where necessary.
* Any updated advice received from local authorities, for example, EHC plan risk assessment, attendance and keep-in-touch mechanisms will be supported and carried out.
* Working arrangements with children’s social workers and the local authority virtual school head (VSH) will be attended by a member of the safeguarding team.
* Staff should immediately report any concerns about a staff member who may pose a safeguarding risk to children to the DSL, if the DSL is not in, another member of the Safeguarding team.
* how the updated policy links to the broader risk assessment to be conducted, described in [annex A of the guidance for schools](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools#A)

All staff and volunteers should be made aware of the new policy and be kept up to date as it is revised.