

## Ensuring Children's Safety (COV-19 Outbreak)

### Policy

Polgate pre-school has adopted and will work to the guidelines set out in the Department of Education's [Supporting Vulnerable Children and Young People during the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Outbreak guidance](#)

Practitioners/Volunteers will ensure that that children and young people are in the same small groups at all times each day, and different groups are not mixed during the day, or on subsequent days to minimise risks of infection.

Rigorous infection control measures are in place and adhered to.

### Procedure

- Practitioners/Volunteers will be assigned to each group and, as far as possible, these will stay the same during the day and on subsequent days.
- Practitioners/Volunteers will ensure, wherever possible, children use the same classroom or area of a setting throughout the day, with a thorough cleaning of the rooms at the end of the day.
- Children and Practitioners will be encouraged to catch sneezes with a tissue, bin the tissue and wash their hands.
- Children will be encouraged to wash their hands:
  - after outside breaks
  - before meals and snack times
  - after using the toilet
  - after catching a sneeze or cough
  - when they arrive at the setting
  - at the end of the day before they go home.
- Emphasis will be placed on the importance that everyone should try not to touch their eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

If soap and water is not to hand at the time, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer can be used.

**Rigorous infection control measures will be implemented and adhered to at all times:**

- good basic hygiene practices
- personal protective equipment (PPE) such as aprons and gloves used as necessary. Children whose care routinely already involves the use of PPE due to their intimate care needs should continue to receive their care in the same way
- regular hand-washing (practitioners and children)
- supervising young children to ensure they wash their hands for 20 seconds more often than usual with soap and water
- cleaning and disinfecting regularly touched objects and surfaces more often than usual using standard cleaning products
- immediate cleaning of spillages of blood and other bodily fluids
- items that come into contact with mouths such as cups, bottles and straws are not shared.