



## Covid-19 Policy - March/April/May/June 2020

The Government announced that we are moving from the Contain phase of the coronavirus action plan and into the Delay phase, in response to the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Full details of each stage in the government action plan can be found here:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-action-plan>

To support the delay of the spread of the virus, the Department for Health and Social Care has asked anyone who shows certain symptoms to stay at home for 7 days, regardless of whether they have travelled to affected areas. This means people should stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 7 days from the point of displaying mild symptoms, to slow the spread of infection.

The symptoms are:

- A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- A new, continuous cough

You do not need to call NHS 111 to stay at home. If your symptoms worsen during your stay at home period or are no better after 7 days contact NHS 111 online at 111.nhs.uk. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.

Current advice remains in place: no education or children's social care setting should close in response to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case unless advised to do so by Public Health England.

The Chief Medical Officer has advised that the impact of closing schools on both children's education and on the workforce will be substantial, but the benefit to public health may not be. Decisions on future advice to schools will be taken based on the latest and best scientific evidence, which at this stage suggests children are a lower risk group.

### **COVID-19 travel guidance for the education sector**

The Government has issued new travel guidance for the education sector. This advises against all overseas education trips for children under 18. This does not apply to domestic trips, or overseas trips which are already underway.

The full guidance can be found here:

· <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/covid-19-travel-guidance-for-the-education-sector>

### **Handwashing advice**

The most important thing individuals can do to protect themselves is to wash their hands more often, for at least 20 seconds, with soap and water. Public Health England recommends that in addition to handwashing before eating, and after coughing and sneezing, everyone should also wash hands after using toilets and travelling on public transport.

### **What are we going to do?**

At Bearhugs we take our duty of care to protect all our children and staff very seriously.

**Should your child show any of the symptoms whilst in nursery we will contact parents and request that they are collected from nursery and the 7 day isolation will need to be applied.**

As a preventative measure we will carry out a routine temperature check once or twice throughout each day. This will be explained to the children and we will continue to carry out high hygiene practices and continue to provide hygiene related learning experiences for the children.

The nursery cleaning schedules will be also be heightened with deep cleans at the weekends when children are not in the building and this will run alongside our everyday cleaning schedules.

We also need parents support with this and if your child shows signs at home / over the weekend we urge you to follow the Government guidelines which is in place to reduce the risk to everyone.

We will keep parents up to date with all developments during this time.

Signed on behalf of Bearhugs Nurseries Ltd by:

Manager/Owner .....

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020

Review Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021