

## Briars Nursery COVID guidance for parents to minimise the risk of infection within our groups

We are following current government guidance from Public Health England & Department for Education and we will continue monitor the updates given.

- Any staff, parent/carers (or household member) or child who is unwell at all, not just with recognised corona virus symptoms, must not attend nursery. They should call nursery and follow national Stay at Home guidance which is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>. Any child or staff member that develops symptoms at nursery will be isolated and their parents/carers will be contacted immediately. Parents must ensure that the nursery hold up to date contact details and numbers. If a child's health deteriorates while at the setting we will call 999. All staff members will be tested if there is any suspicion they may have contracted the virus. All parent/carers and children should also arrange to be tested if any symptoms are displayed.
- Our confidentiality policy will be adhered to at all times and the names of staff members and children with either confirmed or suspected cases of corona virus will be withheld.
- Strict hygiene measures will be implemented within our nursery. All children and staff members will frequently wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and dry thoroughly with paper towels. All children's hands will be washed on arrival, after sneezing or coughing, after using the toilet, before snack time and at periodic intervals throughout the session. Help will be provided to children who have difficulty cleaning their hands independently. All children will be encouraged to learn and practise these habits through games and songs. All surfaces that are touched by children frequently such as toys, books, tables and chairs will be cleaned more regularly than normal. Soft toys, dressing up items and furnishings will be removed where possible.  
We will rotate toys offered on at least a 72 hour timescale. Unnecessary items will also be removed where there is space to store them elsewhere. This will enable more room for the children and staff to distance from each other as much as possible. Our settings will be well ventilated by opening windows and doors when safe to do so. Our outside areas will be utilised as much as possible.
- We would request that only one parent/carer should drop and pick up from nursery. No parent/carer should enter nursery without prior agreement. Our entrance will be marked with cones at 2 metre distance. Please keep your child with you at all times when dropping off or picking up. Some parents/carers may be asked to drop off their child at nursery at varying times if congestion arises. As

parents/carers depart they should distance themselves from other queuing parents/carers and leave as quickly as possible. If a message needs to be given to a staff member it should be written down and handed in with your child. Or a text message can be sent to the relevant nursery mobile number. The centres mobile number is 07765 829452 and the cabins is 07530 055334.

- We would ask no items (except packed lunch boxes-please wipe these with anti-bacterial wipes or spray on each occasion before it is brought to the setting.) be brought in from home. We will not be having a show and tell this term and no home reading books will be shared. If a child needs a changing bag this may be brought in to nursery as usual.
- Staff members will aim to minimise close contact with children as much as possible. However we will need to offer both emotional support and personal hygiene. When personal hygiene is carried out staff members will wear gloves and a plastic apron which will be safely disposed of once used. No masks will be worn unless a child has become unwell in which case full mouth and eye protection will be worn by the staff member dealing with the child. We will always comfort a child that needs support. We aim to do this by holding a child close, side by side and not face to face.
- Social distancing among small children is impossible. For this reason we will be initially limiting numbers within our settings to a maximum of 15 children attending at any one time. We will not group these 15 children together for any activities. Games and adult led activities will be offered in smaller key person groups. At other times our large areas inside and outside should enable the children to have plenty of space to play. Children will be free to choose activities and mix freely with their friends. This does mean they are possibly mixing with all the children and staff at any point. So although contact is reduced their "bubble" is potentially all staff and children on role due to cross over of staff and children over the week.
- We aim to offer a welcoming and safe environment, within this current situation, to reduce the risk of infection as much as we can. Please note that by taking a place with us you accept these guidelines.
- It is important that the children have time to prepare for the changes that have been implemented within the setting. Therefore, I would appreciate your support in discussing these changes with your child before they return to nursery. To support this, we will be making videos/ pictures of the setting for you to show your child in advance. These will be available on our Facebook page next week, alternatively please e-mail me directly, details as below.

Teresa Stockham Briars Nursery and Briars Cabin Nursery Lightwater  
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