



Paving the way.....

13th March 2020

Dear Little Smarties parents and patrons,

it is our responsibility and duty of care for all the children that attend our nursery and their parents, that we ask you kindly to adhere to the following statement. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact us independently:

IMPORTANT: Coronavirus - COVID-19

We wish to reassure all our parents and clients that our team have been fully informed regarding the current coronavirus situation.

We respectfully ask that you do NOT come to the nursery if the following apply to you or any close family or friends:

1) If you've travelled to the UK from the following places, even if you do not have symptoms:

- anywhere in Italy on or after 9 March
- specific areas in northern Italy in the last 14 days
- Iran in the last 14 days
- Hubei province in China in the last 14 days
- Da Staegu, Cheongdo or Gyeongsan in South Korea in the last 14 days

In which case you should stay indoors and avoid contact with other people

2) If you've travelled to the UK from the following places in the last 14 days and have a cough, high temperature or shortness of breath, even if your symptoms are mild:

- Italy (outside specific areas in northern Italy) before 9 March
- mainland China outside of Hubei province
- South Korea outside of Daegu, Cheongdo and Gyeongsan
- Cambodia
- Hong Kong
- Japan
- Laos
- Macau
- Malaysia
- Myanmar
- Singapore
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- Vietnam

In which case you should stay self-isolated and avoid contact with other people.

If either of the above apply, please use the 111 online coronavirus service to find out what to do next. Do not go to GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

The above guidance was accurate as at 14:00 hrs on 12 March but please do refer to <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public> for the most up to date situation and further details.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter and hope you respect the reasons for us sending this.

Yours sincerely

The Board

For Little Smarties Nursery



Coronavirus - COVID-19

QUESTIONS AND TIPS

How concerned should i be?

Please be aware that so far, it seems that children are much less vulnerable to the coronavirus than adults as only 2.4 percent of all recorded cases of COVID-19 have been in people under the age of 19 (according to the World Health Organisation).

Changing children daily practices

Explain what's going on- To strike a balance between answering questions well enough without fuelling the flame of anxiety we aim to gather the children together and sensitively explain what they need to know. Reinforce they are not in danger but to be careful and mindful of spreading germs. We will be open, honest and comforting.

More hand-washing- We will schedule in hand washing/sanitising breaks throughout the day and make sure the children know how to wash their hands thoroughly making it fun while singing some 20 second choruses. We would kindly ask for your help with this at home washing for a minimum of 20 seconds and singing along with your little ones.

Sneezing 101- We will educate how to properly sneeze and cough. Directly into a tissue (disposing of instantly) or into the elbow and washing hand afterwards.

Communicating with staff and families

Stay informed- We will continue to monitor reliable sources of latest news and review actions to take.

Briefing the team- Holding a meeting or sending messages out to the team of any changes or adjustments to make sure everyone is informed of the symptoms and signs of COVID-19.

Helpful tips- We will be asking **ALL** parents and caregivers to use antibacterial gel when arriving for pickup and/or drop-off when entering the setting.

Financing- We will endeavour to work closely with any Little Smarties families affected by the virus or self-isolation.

Adjusting our environment and ongoing cleaning practice

Disinfect early, disinfect often- With research suggesting that the virus can reside for up to 9 days on surfaces such as glass, plastic or metal additional daily cleaning practices put in place.

Removing germ risk items- We will consider putting away or removing smaller toys and objects with which children come into contact and are difficult to clean or disinfect.

Encourage hand hygiene- We ask parents to observe our posters on hand hygiene (displayed at both entrances) and observe our request to practice hand hygiene with antibacterial hand sanitiser provided on drop off and pickup when in the setting.