

# Safety measures being implemented to reduce risk of COVID-19 for re-opening Shofar

To ensure that Shofar remains as safe as possible for the returning children and their teachers, we will be implementing measures, which will require the cooperation of all parents, teachers and children. We realise that some of these measures will cause inconvenience, but safety is paramount and we will rely on these measures being fully adhered to in order to remain safe and stay open.

#### **Risk assessments**

Shofar has a Barnet council approved Covid-19 risk assessment in place which includes safe operating procedures. Each team member will be given these documents ahead of commencing work so that awareness and understanding of Covid-19 specific risks and safety procedures are adhered to. These risk assessments will be available for parents who wish to see them.

### **Staff Training**

All staff who return to work when we reopen will attend an inset training day on the 1<sup>st</sup> June, so that they are fully informed and trained on our new safety procedures and way we will be organising the nursery and the 'bubble' groups.

#### Parents' information:

- There will be no parents or visitors entering the building
- We will allocate set, individual pick up and drop off times, which will happen outside the building. Parents/carers must adhere to these times.
- Only one parent/ carer at a time may enter the site to drop off/ collect. Please avoid bringing siblings/other children into the drop off/ pick up areas.
- Feedback will not be happening in person at drop off/ pick up times. Teachers will continue to post photo updates on Tapestry from time to time. Please call or email us if you need to tell us anything important.
- Babies will be handed over in their buggies and parents will be asked to step back to allow the teacher to take the child safely and then the parent can take the buggy home or place it in the buggy shed if required.
- We will not be able to take a child from a parent's arms due to the need to protect the parent and our staff. Please encourage walking children to walk over to the member of staff collecting them. If there are difficulties, we respectfully ask you to manage this.

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- To protect others, parents wanting to use the buggy shed should use disposable gloves and dispose of these carefully in the red bin provided. We suggest you sanitise your hands after using this area.
- Children will need to change into clean clothes as soon as they enter the nursery each morning. We will require at least 4 sets of **named** clothes per week (more if required for toileting accidents), These clothes should be brought in, stored in a large ziplock/ wipeable bag, at the beginning of each week. Please also ensure that we have a named sunhat that remains at Shofar.
- Children require a suitable coat (lightweight for the summer,) which should remain at Shofar.
- Children must have a pair of indoor shoes that will remain at Shofar.
- Parents who supply nappies to Shofar should please supply these in an unopened packet with child's name written on it.
- Comforters from home should be given to teachers on the first day the child attends, and then will remain at Shofar.
- We do not want to have any toys/ books from home entering the building.
- All children need their own named water bottles.
- Parents should try to avoid travelling on public transport to and from nursery.
- If a child becomes unwell whilst at nursery, parents will be called and must collect their child ASAP or within an hour. Please make sure that we have an emergency contact for collection in case we cannot get hold of you.
- If a child is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 whilst at nursery, they will be moved to a designated area whilst awaiting collection. They will have a staff member (from their usual 'bubble' group) supporting them wearing full PPE. The cleaning of the space will commence as soon as the potentially affected person has left the premises.
- Where it is suspected that a child has COVID-19, parents must book a test by calling 111. The whole 'bubble' group will remain at home until the result is known. If the test result is negative, the child and the rest of their 'bubble' can return to nursery. If the test result is positive, the whole 'bubble' will have to remain at home for a minimum of 14 days longer if they develop symptoms in this time. We will not be allowing children/ teachers with positive test results back after 7 days, as they will not have a 'bubble' group to return to.
- If a member of a child's household has any symptoms of COVID-19, or a positive test result, the child will have to stay at home for 14 days.

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#### Children

- Children will be split into age-appropriate 'bubble groups'. They will remain in these groups at all times whilst at nursery. These groups will be assigned as a best fit by us to ensure corresponding days with their allocated teacher/ teachers (this will not necessarily be their current keyworker). Where possible we will consider friendship groups.
- Within each 'bubble' group, we will not be enforcing social distancing. Teachers within the 'bubble' will be able to cuddle/ provide comfort to children where necessary, although we will keep close physical contact to a minimum for safety.
- Keyworker children will be grouped in keyworker bubble groups because these children will be attending every week.
- Our priority is to ensure that children remain secure. We will be providing activities that promote their emotional well-being.
- Encourage children to avoid touching their face, eyes, nose and mouth. We will run circle times to implement good practice about hygiene where age appropriate.
- Wherever possible the children will be outside. We will try to rotate and stagger groups when it is necessary to be inside, so that 'bubble' groups do not cross one another.
- We will stagger and rotate snack times and meal times. Children will no longer be self-serving.
- We will stagger and rotate toileting and nappy changing times where possible. One toilet will always remain available in case of emergencies. Toilets will be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- Sleep areas will be split into 'bubble' groups.
- Frequent handwashing for children (and staff) will be undertaken, when the child first arrives, throughout the day and especially before meal times and after toileting, sneezing or coughing. Handwashing will be supervised by staff. We recommend that children wash their hands once they return home also.
- Toys and equipment will be split between 'bubble' groups (stored in separate boxes) and will be thoroughly disinfected each day. Any toys and equipment that cannot be easily disinfected will be removed.
- Each 'bubble' group will have their own set or cutlery and crockery (serving of meat is temporarily suspended so that we only need one set).

## **Cleaning**

• We will be increasing the cleaning and disinfection of the nursery throughout the day (particularly regularly touched surfaces; door handles, light switches, taps and sinks, tables and chairs.) All toilets will be cleaned before and after use.

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- Regular professional cleaning will be happening after nursery each day, and there will be an additional deep clean every Friday.
- Windows will be open throughout the nursery to ensure good ventilation in all rooms.
- Soft furnishings and surfaces across the nursery have been removed as these are difficult to disinfect.
- Children's bedding will be washed daily following each child's use.
- All entrance halls have antibacterial hand gel for anyone that enters and exits the building.
- Each 'bubble' group's sets or cutlery and crockery will be cleaned thoroughly after each use, and returned to the group's designated box.

#### Staff

- Staff members are to utilise the testing facility if required.
- •We have asked all our staff to travel to nursery by car, foot or bike where possible and to avoid public transport, following the current government guidance.
- Staff members who have no choice but to use public transport, must change clothes when they arrive at nursery.
- •Staff will have indoor shoes.
- All staff will wash hands thoroughly for the minimum of 20 seconds when they first arrive in the morning and we recommend that they wash hands again once they get home.
- Hand washing for the minimum of 20 seconds continues to be the recommendation whenever a staff member has entered or left a room or following any contact with surfaces. We continue to promote 'catch it, kill it, bin it' following the use of a tissue and the bins will be emptied more frequently.
- We are recommending that in relation to adult interaction, wherever possible our team members comply with the 2 metre rule.
- We have increased the amount of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) that we have on site. We have disposable masks and visors for use if anyone becomes symptomatic.
- When carrying out care routines, such as nappy changing and bottle feeding, our
- Staff will ensure stringent hygiene procedures, including the use of PPE.
- If a staff member is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 whilst at nursery, they will leave the nursery and arrange to be tested ASAP. The spaces where they have been working, and any equipment they have come into contact with will be cleaned. Their 'bubble' group will be sent home until the result from testing is known. If the test result is negative, the teacher and the rest of their 'bubble' can return to nursery. If the test result is positive, the

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whole 'bubble' will have to remain at home for a minimum of 14 days – longer if they develop symptoms in this time. We will not be allowing children/ teachers with positive test results back after 7 days, as they will not have a 'bubble' group to return to.

- If a member of a staff's household has any symptoms of COVID-19, or a positive test result, the staff member will have to stay at home for 14 days. Another staff member will be allocated to their bubble.
- Our shielding team members or those that are categorised as clinically vulnerable will remain at home.

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