

## COVID-19 INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Children have rarely been the person who brought COVID-19 into a household when household spread has happened. Children seem more likely than adults to have no symptoms or to have mild disease. Symptoms in children include cough, fever, runny nose, sore throat, diarrhoea and vomiting. It is important for parents and for those who deliver early learning and care and school-age childcare to accept that no interpersonal activity is without risk of transmission of the virus. However public health advice is that reopening is appropriate.

### **If your child does not feel well.**

If your child has symptoms of diseases viral respiratory disease, even if they are mild, they **must not** attend a childcare setting. Likewise parents who have respiratory symptoms **must not** take their child to a setting or pick them up. Parents **must not** take their child to a childcare setting if a parent or anyone else in your home is suspected of having or known to have Covid-19. If your child becomes ill while attending a childcare setting, you **must collect** them **as quickly as possible**, contact your GP straight away and follow HSE advice

### **Is it safe for children to return to childcare?**

Settings have implemented a number of measures to limit the risk of infection including measures to prevent the virus being brought into the setting and to reduce the chance of spread of the virus in case it is inadvertently brought into the setting. They will focus on ensuring appropriate infection prevention and control. In this regard, it is important that settings and parents follow advice of the Health Prevention Surveillance Centre (HPSC). Settings will focus on the following in particular:

- hand-washing and ensuring that children learn good hand-washing techniques
- respiratory hygiene and ensuring that children learn good techniques
- ensuring good cleaning procedures in settings
- washing toys regularly
- spending more time outside with the children
- grouping children together in groups with the same staff members ('play-pods')
- maintaining a contact log in the centre
- limiting amount of adults into the centre
- not allowing unnecessary objects from home (soothers, toys, buggies)

Settings will continue to safeguard children's needs for physical care and ensure that they all feel safe, that they belong and enjoy their experience. Social distancing between staff and children is not required within 'play-pods' and staff will continue to comfort and cuddle children as normal.

### **PLEASE READ THE ATTACHED POLICY CAREFULLY!!**

Thank you for your cooperation

The Really Cool Team



## **INFECTION PREVENTING POLICY- GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS**

1. Parents are required to be up to date with the latest covid-19 advice from government
2. Parents should be aware of covid-19 symptoms and the way the virus spreads
3. It is a parent's responsibility to inform the manager or key worker if their child falls into at-risk categories
4. If a parent has any concerns regarding covid exposure he/she must contact the centre manager on the following number.....
5. Parents are required to follow good hand hygiene, social distancing and respiratory etiquette
6. If your child develops any covid-19 symptoms he/she is not allowed into the creche
7. If your child develops any covid-19 symptoms in the creche he/she has to be collected as soon as possible by a parent or another designated person
8. It is parent's responsibility to provide up to date contact number for people who can collect the child
9. A parent is required to fill a return to the setting form for children before the child starts in the setting and each time the child is absent for a period of 14 days or more
10. A parent is required to fill a parent checklist before bringing the child to the creche for the first time

### **DROP OFF AND COLLECTION PROCEDURES**

1. Parents are not to enter the service
2. Only one parent at a time can drop and collect the child
3. All the parents and children arriving at the service are to stay on the marked places outside, keeping a 2m distance from each other
4. A designated staff member will collect the children at the door and bring them to the classroom
5. At collection parents are asked to wait outside at designated times, on designated spaces, ring the doorbell and wait for a staff member to bring the child to the door

### **BEFORE YOU BRING YOUR CHILD TO THE CRECHE**

1. Pack the lunch in a disposable wrapping paper/bag/cling film. DO NOT bring lunchboxes or water bottles (water will be provided in cups in the creche)
2. Items such as soothers, toys, buggies, comfort toys, blankets etc are not allowed. If your child needs any soother etc please leave one in the creche, clearly labelled with your child's full name and it will be sterilised by staff members and kept in the creche.
3. Do not bring food items that need to be stored in the fridge
4. Only coat and a material bag allowed (wash it frequently)
5. Any items that the child needs such as change of clothes, nappies, wipes etc must be brought to the creche at the first day, clearly labelled, and kept there until they need changing/top up
6. Every day a child should come in to the creche in a clean set of clothes, preferably short sleeves to ensure good hand hygiene practice
7. Before you leave the house make sure that you and your child wash your hands throughout

Please watch:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/1e8a3-lets-get-ready/>

## COVID-19 Return to Work Safely Protocol -checklist

### Parents/Guardians

This checklist has been developed to help inform parents and guardians about what they need to do to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the setting. Providers and families must work together to protect everyone at the setting and in the community. Further information can be found at [www.Gov.ie](http://www.Gov.ie), [www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie), [www.hpsc.ie](http://www.hpsc.ie) and [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

	<b>Control</b>	<b>Yes / No</b>	<b>Action needed</b>
1.	Are you keeping up to date with the latest COVID-19 advice from Government?		
2.	Are you aware of the signs and symptoms of COVID-19?		
3.	Do you know how the virus is spread?		
4.	Have you completed the COVID-19 return-to-setting form above and given it to the manager of the setting (1 week prior to your child returning to the setting)?		
5.	Have you told the manager or key worker if your child falls into any of the at-risk categories?		
6.	Have you been made aware of the control measures the management of the setting has put in place to minimise the risk of your child and others being exposed to COVID-19?		
7.	Are you committed to cooperating with the staff in the setting to make sure these control measures are maintained?		
8.	Do you know how to contact the management of the setting if you have any concerns about exposure to COVID-19, control measures not being maintained or have any suggestions that could help prevent the spread of the virus?		
9.	Do you know what to do in relation to physical distancing, good hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette?		
10.	Do you know to keep 2 metres physical distancing from others at all times when dropping and collecting your child from the setting?		
11.	Do you know what to do if you or your child start to develop symptoms of COVID-19 at home?		
12.	Have you been made aware of the procedure in the setting should your child start to develop symptoms of COVID-19 while in the setting?		
13.	Have you advised the manager or key worker of your contact details and details of an alternative person to contact should your child start to develop symptoms and need to be taken home?		
14.	Do you understand the purpose of the setting maintaining a COVID-19 contact log?		
15.	Are you aware of the importance of regular handwashing of your child's hands?		
16.	Do you know what supports are available to your child if they are feeling anxious or stressed?		
	<b>Additional Information</b>		

Name.....Signature.....Date.....

## Return to Setting form for children

<b>Childs Name:</b>	Manager Name:
<b>Parents/Guardians Name:</b>	
<b>Name of Setting:</b>	
Questions regarding COVID-19	Yes / No
1. Does your child have symptoms of cough, fever, high temperature, sore throat, runny nose, breathlessness or flu like symptoms now or in the past 14 days?	
2. Has your child been diagnosed with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infection in the last 14 days?	
3. Is your child a close contact of a person who is a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days (i.e. less than 2 metres for more than 15 minutes accumulative in 1 day)?	
4. Has your child been advised by a doctor to self-isolate at this time?	
5. Has your child been advised by a doctor to cocoon at this time?	
6. Please provide details below of any other circumstances relating to COVID-19, not included in the above, which may need to be considered to allow your child's safe return to the setting. Further information on people at higher risk from Coronavirus can be accessed : <a href="https://www2.hse.ie/coronavirus/">https://www2.hse.ie/coronavirus/</a>	

**If your situation changes after you complete this form, please tell management**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

