



Coronavirus / Covid-19 Policy

Dawn until Dusk Ltd recognises the importance of advanced planning in order to maintain services and limit the spread of the coronavirus, known as Covid-19, within our settings.

Covid-19 is a viral infection similar to flu, spread from person to person by close contact. It typically causes fever and a dry cough, and in some cases may progress to viral pneumonia which cannot be treated by antibiotics. Symptoms of Covid-19 can include, but are not limited to:

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|----------------------|-------------------------|
| New continuous cough | Sore throat |
| High temperature | Tiredness |
| Difficulty breathing | Lack of taste and smell |

The initial symptoms are not dissimilar to other colds and flu-type illnesses, but the combination of a recent onset of high temperature and a new continuous cough seem to be present in many cases of Covid-19.

Infection or suspected infection

Any child who becomes ill with symptoms which could be Covid-19, while at the setting, will be isolated from the other children by at least two metres until the child can be collected by his or her parents. Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can and should get a test.

If a two-meter distance cannot be maintained whilst waiting for the child to be collected, then staff should wear PPE as per the document Safe working in Education, Childcare and Children's social care settings' including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) Updated 17th September 2020.

Most suspected cases turn out to be negative so the setting will remain open unless or until advised otherwise by the local Health Protection Team, but parents and staff will be informed, especially those in high-risk groups. Parents and Staff are asked to inform Dawn until Dusk if someone tests positive, they should follow [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#) and should continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to the setting only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell or taste.

If a positive case is reported to Dawn Until Dusk we will contact PHE a dedicated advice service who will inform us what action is needed based on the latest public health advice.

Infection control

Like the common cold and flu viruses, Covid-19 is spread by:

- Infected people passing the virus to others through large droplets when coughing, sneezing, or even talking within a close distance.
- Direct contact with an infected person: for example, if you shake or hold their hand, and then touch your own mouth, eyes or nose without first washing your hands.

- Touching objects (eg door handles, light switches) that have previously been touched by an infected person, then touching your own mouth, eyes or nose without first washing your hands. Viruses can survive longer on hard surfaces than on soft or absorbent surfaces.

We will limit the risk of catching or spreading Covid-19 at the setting by:

- Parents and Carers will not enter the premises
- Risk Assessments in place
- Regular handwashing by staff and children for 20 seconds with soap
- Wash hands more regularly than normal especially before eating or handling food.
- Minimising contact between our hands and mouth/nose
- Covering nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing; using a tissue whenever possible; disposing of the tissue promptly and carefully (bag it and bin it); washing hands afterwards
- Cleaning hard surfaces (eg door handles, hand rails, light-switches, tables, keypads, phones, toys etc) with sanitizer frequently
- Encouraging the children at the setting to follow the guidance above
- Instructing staff to remain at home if they display any relevant symptoms, or sending them home if they first display symptoms while at work.

We will promote infection control through the methods above, and in addition we will:

- Display posters and information to promote infection control
- Ensure that adequate supplies of cleaning materials and protective equipment (eg disposable gloves and aprons) are available within the Club
- Dispose of waste promptly and hygienically
- Provide tissues and suitable facilities for their disposal.

Testing

All children, young people, and other learners, as well as their households, also have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). Visit the [guidance on coronavirus testing and how to arrange to have a test](#), or contact NHS 119 via telephone if you do not have internet access.

If anyone develops symptoms, they should be tested.

- If they test negative, other members of their household can stop self-isolating. If they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu - in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better.
- If they test positive, they should follow the [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) infection and education and childcare settings should follow [guidance on implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings](#).

Closure

The setting will have to close if advised to do so by the Local Authority or Health Protection Team in the interest of safeguarding the children in our care.

In the event of closure, the Manager will notify parents or carers as soon as possible. The Manager will also inform the Early Years or Childcare team at our Local Authority as well as other relevant parties, eg feeder schools, other users of shared premises, etc. The Manager will also notify Ofsted of the closure.

Advance planning

In preparation for dealing with Covid-19, the Club will ensure that all contact details for staff, children and parents are up to date.

We will endeavour to build a bank of relief or supply staff who are able to provide cover should staffing levels fall below the required legal minimums. Any relief staff will be DBS checked at the time of joining our team, so that they are legally able to work with children should the situation arise.

The setting will regularly update its information regarding Covid-19, by checking the latest guidance from Public Health England and the Local Authority and will inform parents and staff of any changes to our emergency plans.

Attendance agreement

By sending your child to any Dawn Until Dusk Ltd sessions you acknowledge the contagious nature of Coronavirus and that the latest government guidance recommends practising social distancing and a range of other protective measures.

You recognise that Dawn until Dusk has put in place a series of protective measures to reduce the risk of Coronavirus transmission within the setting, but accept that Dawn until Dusk cannot guarantee that your child will not be exposed to Coronavirus whilst attending the club.

You understand that you must follow the procedures set out by Dawn until Dusk when dropping off and collecting your child from the setting.

You understand the importance of vigilance regarding Coronavirus symptoms as a keystone of preventing the transmission of the virus to other children, staff and parents. Before sending your child to a Dawn Until Dusk setting please ensure:

- ☐ Your child is not experiencing any Coronavirus symptoms such as cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell.
- ☐ Your child has not tested positive for Coronavirus, or been advised by NHS Test & Trace to self-isolate.
- ☐ Your child has not been in contact with anyone in your household who has Coronavirus symptoms, or who has been advised by NHS Test & Trace to self-isolate.
- ☐ Your child has not travelled abroad to any country other than those identified as 'safe' by the government within the last 14 days.

- ☐ Your child is capable of following the club rules relating to protective measures, such as not mixing with children in other bubbles, washing their hands regularly, coughing and sneezing into a tissue and disposing of it safely, and not touching other children. You understand that if they are unwilling to follow the rules they may not be allowed to attend future sessions.

If any of the above circumstances change, we require parents to notify the club staff immediately and to keep your child at home until a Covid-19 test can be carried out and you have received the results.

Dawn Until Dusk Limited ensures any personal data collected will be retained securely for as long as necessary and only used for legitimate childcare related activities to facilitate the delivery of childcare services, or for the purpose of preventing and/or detecting fraud and/or crime, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018.

Dawn Until Dusk Limited's Data Protection Policy is available from the website at www.kidsdawntildusk.co.uk or by writing to the Office Manager at info@kidsdawntildusk.co.uk

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