



Outbreak Management Plan

This outbreak management plan outlines how Haslingfield Little Owls Preschool would operate if there was an outbreak of any infectious illness in our setting or local area. This would be used if staff illness affected the setting's operation and ratios. Additional advice may be given by the Local Authority, East of England Health Protection Team the UK Health Security Agency depending on the outbreak and individual circumstances.

Classification of an outbreak as outlined by the UK Health Security Agency:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-4-action-in-the-event-of-an-outbreak-or-incident>

- An incident in which 2 or more people experiencing similar illnesses are linked in time or place
- A greater than expected rate of infection compared with the usual background rate for the place and time when the outbreak has occurred

For example

- 2 or more cases of diarrhoea or vomiting which are in the same classroom, shared communal areas or taking part on the same activities
- Higher than usual number of people diagnosed with scabies
- Higher than usual number of people with respiratory symptoms

The above examples should not be used as a threshold, but the incident must be reported and advice must be sought from the UK Health Security Agency or East of England Health Protection Team.

This document also uses information from the DfE Emergency Planning Guidance:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1065829/DfE_Emergency_Guidance.pdf

Additional Protective Measure:	Action we will take to implement:
Vaccinations	Little Owls will promote uptake of vaccinations for all eligible staff & parents (everyone >16ys) via Newsletter and regular communications with parents/ carers
Testing of staff and families	This may be suggested by the Local Authority, East of England Health Protection Team the UK Health Security Agency depending on the outbreak and individual circumstances
Increased ventilation	Increase activities that could take place outside. Increase ventilation inside by opening all doors and windows where it is safe to do so. All staff to consider in planning, and whilst setting up.

Increased cleaning	More frequent cleaning of touched surfaces and toys.
Provision	Changes to provision during an outbreak include (but may not be limited to): shared resources and activities are reduced. Eg Playdough and sand. Children are given whole pieces of fruit at snack time and drink is poured for them by a member of staff.
Face coverings	Staff may be asked to wear face coverings at certain times in the setting (although this can be unsettling for children so may be deemed inappropriate). We may request that visitors wear face coverings (although this can be unsettling for children so may be deemed inappropriate, in which case we would cancel the visit). Parents may be asked to wear face coverings when dropping off and collecting their children.
Shielding	Those considered vulnerable to seek medical advice. Little Owls will consider the risks to staff and children who are medically vulnerable on an individual case basis, taking advice from the Government, Local Authority or Public Health as appropriate.
Management of children attending more than one setting	It may be necessary for a child who attends two settings to temporarily access only one of the two if there is a setting or local outbreak. We will communicate with parents when necessary to make arrangements and to communicate with the child's other setting.
Transition or taster days	Carrying out meetings outside in the garden using face coverings, hold events online wherever possible/ appropriate, video tours of the setting, video calls to new children. Manager/ Admin to communicate this to parents, visitors and staff.
Visits (Parents, Professionals, Events)	Little Owls would continue to allow essential visitors to the setting, assessing this on an individual case basis. In the first instance, if possible, visits can be held online or moved to a later date; if this is not possible visits will be kept to the outdoor areas, held away from the children or out of hours. Visitors and staff present will be asked to wear face coverings. Little Owls will consider cancelling events until an outbreak is managed or moving the event to an online platform or outside if possible. Manager/ Admin to communicate this to parents, visitors and staff.
Attendance limitations due to staff isolation/illness (these will only be implemented as a last resort)	Vulnerable children and children of critical workers should be allowed to continue attending Early Years settings. Support children who have to remain at home with home learning packs, Tapestry and Zoom. Manager/ Admin will ask parents in advance if they consider themselves a critical worker. Staff and committee to liaise to create home support

This policy was adopted by

Haslingfield Little Owls
Preschool CIO

*(name of
provider)*

On (or reviewed)

06 May 2022

(date)

Date to be reviewed

May 2023

(date)

Signed on behalf of the provider

Name of signatory

Heather Duke

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner)

Chair of Trustees