

Dear Parents/Carers

PLEASE READ: Important reminder about children's illness

I am writing to make clear our procedures for if children are unwell at home or at nursery. This is in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Coronavirus symptoms in children can be very mild so staff, parents and even doctors are not qualified to determine whether or not someone has coronavirus/COVID-19 without a test. It is essential that you follow this guidance from the Scottish Government:

1. **If your child has a cough, a raised temperature or a change in (or loss of) smell or taste, they should stay at home, self-isolate and not come to nursery for 14 days.** If your child develops any symptoms in nursery, we will phone you and ask you to collect them as soon as possible. The rest of your household should also stay at home and self isolate for 14 days, even without any symptoms.
2. **If anyone in your household develops these symptoms, your child should not come to nursery and should stay at home and self isolate for 14 days,** even without symptoms.
3. **Your child (or whoever has symptoms) should be tested for COVID-19 by booking a test at the following website: [NHSinform.scot/test-and-protect](https://nhs.uk/inform-scot/test-and-protect)**
4. Your child should not return to nursery for 14 days, even if their symptoms are mild and they get better. If your child has a test for COVID-19 which is negative, then please let us know and they can return to nursery sooner, as long as they are well enough

At the moment, it is very unlikely that your child has coronavirus, even if they have a cough or temperature. I know that it may be very inconvenient for families to follow this guidance, however **you must follow the above guidance to keep everyone safe.** We are relying on close and consistent working with families to support all of Scotland to keep coronavirus levels in the community very low. As you are aware, this is a very serious illness for many members of the nursery and wider community, even if the risk to children is extremely low.

If children have any other signs of illness (for example a rash or sickness and diarrhoea) then the normal guidance applies e.g. 48 hours off nursery from last episode of sickness and diarrhoea.

If you are in any doubt, please phone nursery and don't bring children in, as this could cause confusion and upset to children as well as raising the possibility of spread of infection. I am very happy to discuss with any of our parents/carers if you have a concern.

Yours sincerely

Steve Rivers

Head of Nursery – Renfrew Street Nursery