

# NETHER GREEN JUNIOR AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

## Coronavirus / Covid-19 Policy

NGJASC recognises the importance of advanced planning in order to maintain services and limit the spread of the new coronavirus, known as Covid-19, within our setting.

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:

Dry cough	High Temperature
Difficulty breathing	a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

The initial symptoms are not dissimilar to other colds and flu-type illnesses, but the combination of a recent onset of fever 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 Club will be isolated from the other children by at least two metres until the child can be collected by his or her parents. The Club 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.

If any staff or children experience a recent onset of a new continuous cough and/or a high temperature - they must stay at home and follow the most recent guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

#### Close contact means:

- anyone who lives in the same household as someone with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)
- anyone who has had any of the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) with a PCR or LFD test
  - face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to face conversation within 1 metre
  - been within 1 metre for 1 minute or longer without face-to-face contact
  - sexual contacts
  - been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact, or added up together over one day)
  - travelled in the same vehicle or a plane

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- fully vaccinated and 14 days since completing their vaccination.
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

We work in conjunction with the school so will work them towards keeping our children and the local community safe. If the school closes then NGJASC will also be closed.

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## 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 (e.g. 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 like plastics, than on soft or absorbent surfaces.

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

- Regular handwashing by staff and children
- 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 (e.g. door handles, light-switches, tables, etc) with disinfectant frequently
- Encouraging the children at the Club to follow the guidance above
- Keep rooms well ventilated + operating outside whenever possible
- Instructing staff to remain at home if they display any relevant symptoms, or sending them home if they first display symptoms while at work.
- Minimising traffic throughout the club – please see signs on doors as you enter the club as these are subject to change.
- Staff will also for the foreseeable future sign out children to limit the amount of equipment touched by non-personnel. **Parents will still need to sign accident and medication forms but will be asked to wash their hands before and after doing so. As well as wear a mask when inside at the club.**
- We will be flexible in meeting parents of high risk/vulnerability at the gates if needed. Parents can call us on 0114 230 7939 if they do not wish to enter the grounds.
- Cash payments will be currently suspended until further notice. Parents will be asked to pay via vouchers or online bank transfer. Payments for ad-hocs must be paid before the child attends the setting.

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 (e.g. disposable gloves and aprons) are available within the Club
- Dispose of waste promptly and hygienically
- Provide tissues and suitable facilities for their disposal.
- Limit the amount personal items children and staff bring into the club. No lending library will operate during this time.
- We encourage ASC personnel and users to wear masks on public transport.
- Make it clear that parents shouldn't congregate at collection areas and follow advice given via newsletters and signage in the areas.

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## Closure

The latest advice is that closing individual settings is a last resort as the impact of education is too great. However, there may be some occasions when we will have to consider temporarily closing the Club because we have too few staff to run sessions safely. If this occurs the manager will work closely with the school and try to contact all parents via the friends of Nether Green social media page and the provided phone numbers.

The Club will also 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 as soon as possible. The manager will also inform the local authority as well as other relevant parties, e.g. 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 prepare letters of notification for parents and staff, so that they can be distributed immediately if an outbreak occurs.

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.

We will be pro-vaccine for all our staff, as well as encouraging regular testing.

**The Club 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.**

## Useful contacts

Ofsted: 0300 123 1231

- Schools should report positive cases through to the DfE helpline: DfE helpline for COVID-19: [REDACTED] (option 1 for cases): Available Monday- Friday
- 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Sheffield LA Public Health Team COVID – 19 STORM phone line is available for early years settings, Schools, FE and Universities – [REDACTED] (available Monday-Friday 8 a.m. – 4.45p.m.)
- For all COVID-19 related queries please email: [PublicHealthC&YP@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:PublicHealthC&YP@sheffield.gov.uk) (monitored 7 days a week)

## Related policies

### Closure Policy

## **NETHER GREEN JUNIOR AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Nether Green Junior ASC name of setting

Held on 17th Sept 2021 (date)

Date to be reviewed Half termly (date)

Signed on behalf of the management  
committee

Name of signatory Tammy Nelson

Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner) Manager

Written in accordance with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2017):  
Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Health [3.44].