



## **Newtongrange Early Learning and Childcare Setting**

### **Parent & Carer Guidance for Covid-19 safety measures within our ELC Setting**

We are delighted to welcome you and your child to Newtongrange Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Setting. Starting ELC is a very exciting time for every child and at Newtongrange ELC we try to make this experience as easy as possible for both you and your child. We hope this will be the beginning of a long, happy partnership between our ELC, school, your child and yourselves.

However, we understand starting ELC this session, could be a worrying time for families whilst we try and remain safe during the Covid-19 pandemic. We hope this guide will provide reassurance for parents detailing all the measure we have in place ensure the safety of children and adults.

Please be reassured that you can contact our ELC by telephone or email. There will be 'chat spots' set up by the fence for when you'd prefer a face to face with a member of staff.

Tel No: 0131 271 4646

Email: [Newtongrange.ps@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Newtongrange.ps@midlothian.gov.uk)

The Scottish Government publish guidance on what we have to do and you will see below what we will be doing.

## Parent & Carer Guidance for your child starting at Newtongrange ELC

The Coronavirus is still present and we need to make changes in the way we do things to keep everyone safe.

We are following the Coronavirus (COVID-19): Guidance on Reopening Early Learning and Childcare Services published by the Scottish Government on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020. This guidance recognises that we must safeguard the wellbeing of the child and the adults who work with them.

This table shows the core public health measures that underpin what we have put in place to keep everyone safe and examples of what this means for you and your child

Public Health Measure	Examples of what this means for me and my child
<b>Enhanced hygiene and cleaning practice</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All staff wash their hands on arrival and departure from the setting. All staff wash their hands at very frequent intervals throughout the day.</li> <li>2. All staff wear face coverings when in communal areas of the school building and use appropriate PPE when supporting a child with personal care and providing meals within the ELC.</li> <li>3. All children wash their hands               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on arrival,</li> <li>• when they move from outdoors to indoors</li> <li>• when they move from indoors to outdoors</li> <li>• before and after snack and lunch</li> <li>• and at frequent intervals throughout the day</li> </ul> <p>We can give you a copy of the visual that we use to help children wash their hands and you can use it at home as well. We help the children to ensure that they wash their hands thoroughly</p> </li> <li>4. We have reduced the number of resources that children can play with and ensure that they are cleaned regularly throughout the day</li> <li>5. Frequently touched surfaces are cleaned hourly</li> </ol>
<b>Limiting children's contacts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is to reduce the likelihood of transmission and allows for more effective contact tracing through Test and Protect.</li> <li>• Children will be in one cohort and they will only play with children in that cohort. We have divided the indoor and outdoors areas to ensure that the cohorts do not mix with one another.</li> <li>• If a child does become ill with COVID-19 this will reduce the overall number who will need to isolate</li> </ul>
<b>Maximising the use of outdoor spaces</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children can choose to spend their time outside or inside.</li> <li>• Children can choose to eat their snack and lunch outside</li> <li>• Children love being outdoors and we have observed that children are very involved in their own learning outside – in fact for many children this is the most powerful learning for them</li> <li>• Evidence suggests that outdoor environments can limit transmission, it also means adults and children are spread over a wider area</li> <li>• We also ensure there is good ventilation in our indoor spaces to reduce transmission</li> </ul>

<p><b>Physical distancing between adults in the setting including parents at drop-off and pick-up time</b></p>	<p>Evidence also shows that young children are less likely to be affected by or to transmit the virus. This is not the case for adults – so to prevent the spread of COVID-19 all adults must physically distance staying 2 meters away from each other where at all possible We are all in this together and we all want to keep our community safe – please help us by staying 2 meters away from other adults.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will have a flexible drop off (between 8:30am -8:45am) and a flexible pick time (between 2.45pm -3pm) to ensure that there are less adults coming to nursery at one time.</li> <li>• One cohort will enter our ELC through the main door and the other cohort will enter through the garden. A member of staff will inform you which entrance you have to use.</li> <li>• A member of staff will come and collect your child from the drop-off point. Please be patient as we want to be able to welcome everyone.</li> <li>• Staff members will be wearing face coverings during drop off and pick times, we encourage parents and carers to also do this.</li> <li>• A member of staff will bring your child to you at the end of the day</li> <li>• We have “CHAT SPOTS” – this is a place in the garden where you can wait if you want to speak to a member of staff about something before you go.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Active engagement in Test and Protect</b></p>	<p>We are following the Test and Protect arrangements if someone becomes unwell. If you or one of your family become unwell, please:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact the NHS to arrange to be tested at 0800 028 2816 or <a href="http://www.nhsinform.scot">www.nhsinform.scot</a></li> <li>• tell us as soon as you can – we can then take measures to stop the spread of the infection</li> </ul>

There are lots of other things that we are doing to keep everyone safe. If you have any questions, please ask a member of staff, phone us or email us. We are happy to talk about any of the measures we are taking to prevent the spread of infection.