



## Manor Twiglets Nursery Ltd

### **Cleaning & Sterilising of Equipment and Resources Policy- Covid-19**

The Health and Safety of the children and all who attend Manor Twiglets Nursery Ltd is paramount and we ensure on a day to day basis that the equipment and resources used at Manor Twiglets Nursery are cleaned and sterilised in readiness for the next session.

The Manor Twiglets Nursery staff understand the importance of cleaning and sterilising all equipment and resources used by children and adults during a session, due to the current pandemic Coronavirus (Covid-19). They understand and are aware that the transmission of this infectious viral disease is a significant risk if cleaning, washing and sterilization of equipment is not carried out correctly.

Under Section 3 of *The Statutory and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework 2017* it states that:

*Section 3.54 - Providers must ensure that their premises, including overall floor space and outdoor spaces, are fit for purpose and suitable for the age of children cared for and the activities provided on the premises. Providers must comply with requirements of health and safety legislation (including fire safety and hygiene requirements)*

At Manor Twiglets Nursery the staff will always ensure that the toys and equipment that are used on a day to day basis, are inspected and cleaned regularly before, throughout and after each session. The children attending the setting will be encouraged not to place toys and equipment into their mouths, but if this does occur, the staff member will remove the toy/piece of equipment immediately and clean/sterilise according to its cleaning guidelines.

The staff at Manor Twiglets will use the following guidelines for cleaning, sterilising and washing of resources during each session:

1. Each staff member will have their own individual box of resources for the day which they will use with the same children at each session. Each staff member will be responsible for the cleaning and sterilization before, during and after each session. This box will be rotated to other groups so it is imperative that it is extensively cleaned and sterilised.
2. During each session, each staff member will have to hand (but out of reach of the children) antibacterial spray and a roll of kitchen roll. This will be used during the session to clean the resources should the child:
  - Place them into their mouth, sneeze or cough over them.
  - When a child has finished using it and it is being placed back into the resource box.
  - When another child wants to use a piece of equipment after someone else, including items not in the boxes such as bikes, balls, hoops, skipping ropes etc
  - When the piece of equipment has been dropped onto the floor.

Staff members will also be encouraged to regularly use the antibacterial spray to clean the outside of their resource box and lid once they have opened and shut it, but also the edging as staff and children may lean on this when collecting resources from inside the box. It is preferred that the staff members take the equipment out of the box before the session so that it limits the children touching the boxes.

3. After each session, it will be **each staff members responsibility** to ensure that they clean and sterilize every item within their box by either using sterilizing tablet solution, antibacterial spray using kitchen roll and/or a mixture of washing up liquid in warm water using a blue coloured jay cloth which will then be disposed of, after the box has been cleaned, in the pedal bin in the setting.
4. Staff members are encouraged to read the sterilizing tablet/liquid instructions before cleaning their resources as different brands will use different quantities per litre of water and also adopt different methods of drying the resources once sterilized.
5. It will be the responsibility of each staff member after every session to use one of the large Flexi Tubs with handles and fill this with either cold or lukewarm water and add the necessary quantity of sterilizing tablets/liquid to the water. The resources can be left in the Flexi tub for 15 minutes and then they will be ready to take out and drain. The resources can of course be left for a longer period of time, if required.
6. Staff members will have to use their initiative and look through their box of resources to work out which items CAN be sterilized and which items ONLY need cleaning using antibacterial spray and washing up liquid mixture. If staff members are unsure which items can/cannot be placed into their solution of sterilized water, please do ask another member for clarification, and not just place the item into the water. For example toys that contain magnets in and toys that have holes in them.
7. Once all the resources have been sterilised, staff members are encouraged to clean their resource box using antibacterial spray and kitchen roll and/or washing up liquid solution to clean their resource box both inside and out, paying particularly attention to the lid and edges of the resource box, which both the staff and children may have touched several times during the session.

#### **Items which CANNOT be added to sterilising solutions**

Blue foam peg boards

Any wooden insert boards or wooden loose parts

Wooden construction blocks of any size

Threading laces and lacing cards

Pens/pencils

Wipeboards

Magnets

Toys with holes in them (they hold the water and then spoil)

#### **Items which CAN be added to sterilized solutions**

Any construction resources including duplo, lego, knex etc

Coloured pegs  
Small world animals  
Green pots holding pens/pencils  
Numicon

**Legislations and Guidance:**

The Statutory and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)  
Statutory Framework (March 2017) Section 3.54

[https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2017/03/EYFS\\_STATUTORY\\_FRAMEWORK\\_2017.pdf](https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2017/03/EYFS_STATUTORY_FRAMEWORK_2017.pdf)

Covid-19: Cleaning in non-healthcare settings

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>

Coronavirus (Covid-19): Guidance for educational settings

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Actions for educational and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020/actions-for-education-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020>

Actions for Early years and childcare providers during the Coronavirus outbreak

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

This Policy was implemented on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Date of Review: as and when new guidelines and documents are released

Signed on Behalf of the Directors:

Name of signatory: Mrs FJ Bray

Role of Signatory: Childcare Manager