



Covid-19 Policy

Funtastic Kids recognises that careful planning is essential in order to keep the children and staff safe, and to limit the spread of coronavirus/Covid-19, within our setting. Accordingly, we have conducted a thorough Covid-19 risk assessment and Contingency Plan and will review it on a regular basis, depending on local/individual school outbreaks, and whenever Government guidance changes.

Covid restrictions have ceased in law and been replaced by guidance and individual responsibility.

Covid-19 symptoms

As with other illnesses, and in line with our illnesses and accident policy, we ask that children and staff, stay away from clubs and camps if they are unwell and ensure the children and staff have sufficient time to recover.

Covid-19 is a viral, respiratory disease, which is 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:

Continuous dry cough	Sore throat
Fever (high temperature)	Tiredness
Difficulty breathing	Loss of taste and smell

The initial symptoms are similar to 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. However, it is important to be aware that in some cases the symptoms may be very mild or even non-existent, especially in children.

Procedure for infection or suspected infection

We now understand that children who have symptoms of Covid 19 are more likely to pass the virus onto others than those who do not have symptoms.

Any child who becomes ill with symptoms which could be Covid-19 while at the club/camp, as with sickness bugs, chicken pox etc, will be sensitively isolated from the other children by at least two metres until the child can be collected by his or her parents. A member of staff will stay with the child. If the child becomes seriously ill, we will call 999.

While it is no longer a legal requirement for people with covid -19 to self-isolate, the UKHSA guidance does state that anyone who has any of the main symptoms should seek a PCR test. These continue to be free until 1st April 2022.

If that test result is positive the guidance recommends that people with Covid-19 infection should not attend work wherever possible. Children with Covid-19 should not attend their childcare setting.



Staff/children with positive cases of Covid-19 should take a Lateral flow test from five days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms), followed by another one the next day (day 6). If both those test results are negative, they can return to work or club/camp, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature.

For UKHSA guidance please see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts>

The Department for Education 'Covid-19: Actions for Out of School Settings' guidance makes clear that Out of School Club may refuse a place to a child with confirmed or suspected case of Covid-19, if we determine that this is a reasonable measure to protect other children and staff from possible infection.

Funtastic Kids will determine whether children can attend with a positive Covid-19 test result upon discussion with Directors/Operations Manager and an assessment of the relative risk to others.

The club/camp will remain open unless or until advised otherwise by the local Health Protection Team. Parents and staff will be informed if Public Health consider there to be an outbreak.

Infection control

It is the responsibility of Funtastic Kids staff to try to ensure the environment is safe for people who visit or attend. We will take reasonable steps to ensure this including regularly reviewing and updating our risk assessments.

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 (eg 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 than on soft or absorbent surfaces.

From, Monday 21 February, the Government has removed the guidance for staff and students in most education and childcare settings to undertake twice-weekly asymptomatic testing.

Our staff will no longer be able to order test kits and therefore staff will not be expected to test twice weekly.

We will continue to take the following steps to reduce the risk of catching or spreading Covid-19 at our clubs and camps:

Hygiene:

- Staff and children will wash their hands as soon as they arrive at the Club, and will be reminded to wash their hands regularly throughout the session, especially after using the toilet, before eating food and after coughing or sneezing.
- Hand sanitiser will be available for adults to use.



- We will have tissues readily available for use when sneezing and coughing, and these will be disposed of, in a bin, immediately after use.
- If they don't have a tissue to hand, children will be instructed to cough or sneeze into the crook of their arm.
- We will discourage children from touching their faces.

Cleaning:

- We will ensure that frequently-touched surfaces are cleaned regularly
- Toilets and sinks will be cleaned before and after each session.

Arrivals and departures:

- Parents will continue to drop and collect their children from outside the Club buildings, however parents will be invited in to clubs to ensure their child's well-being (in case of a new or anxious child)
- Parents will wait outside the building until staff have ensured their child has collected their belongings and is ready to go.
- A member of staff will sign the children in and out, in the presence of the child's parent on the club iPad.

Premises

- Doors and windows will be kept open where safe to do so, to keep the premises well ventilated. Thought should be given to maintaining comfortable temperatures.

Food:

- Staff and children can now make snacks and food together
- In clubs and camps, children will now prepare and make food together as part of the creative activities.

Promoting good practice

We will promote infection control through the methods above, and in addition we will:

- Ensure that adequate supplies of cleaning materials are available within the club/camp
- Dispose of waste promptly and hygienically
- Provide tissues and suitable facilities for their disposal
- Encourage staff to have the vaccine when they are offered it.

Closure (Please see our Contingency Plan)

We may need to temporarily close the Club/camp if we have insufficient staff due to illness to run sessions safely.

If the Club/camp needs to close, the manager will notify parents or carers as soon as possible. The manager will also inform the local Early Years or Childcare service as well as other relevant parties, eg schools, other users of shared premises, etc. The manager will also notify Ofsted of the closure.

Useful contacts

Ofsted: 0300 123 1231

Health Protection Team (HPT): 0344 225 3861 (option 1 to 4 depending on area)



This policy was adopted by Funtastic Kids	Date: December 2022
To be reviewed: December 2023	Signed: M. Holloway

Written in accordance with:

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2021): Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Health [3.42].

UK Health Security Agency 'Covid-19: people with Covid-19 and their contacts' 24th February 2022

Department for Education 'Covid-19: Actions for out-of-school settings' February 2022