

Playgroup arrangements from Nov 2020



Please read the following important information. We will continue to follow any changing government guidance.

To ensure a return that is as safe as possible we have made some changes.

It is advised that children only attend 1 setting. If your child attends another setting, it is important that you provide contact details for the additional setting.

Opening times: We have to work with Woodchester school with regard to our opening times therefore the hours we will be offering are **9.05am - 2.55pm** or **9.05 - 12.**

The **drop off arrangements** are: Please come carefully through the staff carpark, through the tall green gate and wait socially distanced near the first two sheds. Staff will come out to the playground; the children will line up and we will all enter playgroup building together. Please ensure you leave the playground swiftly so we can lock the gate. The **pick up arrangements** are: Please wait socially distanced outside the large staff carpark gate on the pavement and we will bring the children out to you. Please telephone us before 9am if your child is going to be absent from their session.

You MUST be on time rather than early or late

It is extremely important that you are prompt with drop off and collection as these times are co-ordinated with the school's arrangements. Only ONE adult to accompany each child for drop off and collection. We politely ask that ALL parents adhere to social distancing measures while dropping off and collecting their child. We also respectfully ask that in order for this process to happen safely and effectively it is a case of drop off and go without full on conversations. If on the rare occasion you are late, you will need to park up, telephone playgroup and a member of staff will meet your child at the allocated entrance ONLY if it is safe for us to do so.

YOU MAY ONLY ENTER THE SCHOOL SITE/PLAYGROUND AT DROP OFF (9.05)

Please do not enter at any other times unless arrangements have been made.

Cleaning and hygiene. Staff have made cleaning an absolute priority. We will be cleaning all surfaces and equipment as we set up and throughout the day, resources and equipment will be cleaned as required and thoroughly at the end of every session. Additional deep cleaning will be arranged as required.

We will be promoting good hygiene routines. Hand sanitisers will be available to use throughout the day and we will be encouraging all children to increase handwashing at regular intervals, especially when arriving, before leaving, between activities, meal times and after using the toilet.

Symptoms of illness: Please do not bring your child to playgroup if they are feeling unwell.

If your child becomes unwell with coronavirus symptoms whilst at playgroup they will be cared for in our isolation area and you will be called to collect them. We respectfully ask that you collect your child as soon as you receive a call from us to keep everyone else safe and well. Staff will need to use PPE when helping your child. If your child shows symptoms of covid-19 (temperature, cough etc) we will need to send them home in the interests of infection control, even if they do not feel unwell. This means that even if you think they are actually struggling with another medical need such as hay fever or asthma they will be sent home. This is to protect staff and other children from a child who is constantly coughing or sneezing.

Any child or staff member showing symptoms of covid 19 will need to be sent home and advised to follow the [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#) DO NOT send your child to playgroup knowing that they or someone in your house hold is symptomatic.

Playgroup MUST be informed of anyone who is symptomatic or has a positive test result. We will contact public health England and follow any further advice. Children and staff who attend alongside anyone testing positive will need to be informed and isolated. **Please note - If a staff member is off because of illness from covid-19 then the temporary closure of playgroup is likely.**

Travelling to playgroup: We would encourage you to walk to playgroup where possible. Please make use of the green opposite school to enable social distancing. Only ONE adult to accompany a child.

Communication with Playgroup: If you need to speak to a member of staff please could you email the playgroup and we will arrange a convenient time to telephone you or meet you safely.

Daily routine: Playgroup is going to look and feel a little different so it is important that you try and explain this to your child particularly the drop off and collection arrangements. We hope to keep the routine similar to before, we feel that children need the familiarity. There will be some subtle changes, including using equipment/toys that can be cleaned easily. The tables within the playgroup are well spaced allowing the maximum amount of room between activities, with less children there will be more room around tables for children to play and eat at snack and lunchtime. We will use a wipeable circle mat for small group/story/song times.

What to bring: Children will need to bring a packed lunch in a washable container. (No fabric lunch bags) Also include with them a healthy snack of fruit etc and a drinks bottle, preferably containing water all clearly named. Playgroup will be well ventilated and we will spend as much time as possible outside, therefore it is important that you provide a suitable coat. We do have a selection of spare wellies but feel free to provide your own.

Please supply one small clearly named bag with spare clothes/nappies, this will stay at playgroup until the end of term or until further notice. Do not bring toys or anything else from home unless requested. Finally, there is some evidence that the virus can stay on fabrics for several days, please ensure that children's clothes are washed at the end of every day. If children bring pictures home it is advised that these are put in quarantine for 3 days.

Finally: With all of these plans in place, we are hoping that the weather will be kind to us so we can make the most of playing outside, reducing the risk further!

We understand that there are many changes to the normal routine and set up but we are doing everything we can to make this as smooth as we can for both children, parents and staff. Whilst socially distancing is the advice given it is just not going to be possible to expect children not to play together and socialise. Also please rest assured that if your child is feeling upset or has fallen over, we will still give them a cuddle.

We also feel it is important that you understand some of the staff and their families are going out to work in different environments but we have all been adhering to the social distancing measures. We have put all the protective measures in place, however if you are not feeling completely comfortable with the changes we have implemented, we completely understand, returning to playgroup is your choice and you have to do what is best for yourself and your family.

We hope this guide provides you with all the information you need, please email if you have any further questions.

A detailed risk assessment and covid-19 policy have been written which are on the website along with an additional parent agreement which needs to be signed and returned.

We look forward to welcoming you all to Woodchester Playgroup.