



Church Rooms, Back Lane, Goudhurst, Kent, TN17 1AN

Tel: 07766 553728 jaynegvp@gmail.com

Tel: 07896 890370 joannegvp@gmail.com

www.goudhurstvillagepreschool.co.uk

Dear Parents,

We previously wrote to you stating that we have been advised by Public Health England that there had been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within Goudhurst Village Pre-School and that we planned to reopen on Tuesday 2nd February.

Unfortunately, re-opening on Tuesday is no longer an option and therefore we will now reopen on Monday 8th February. Whilst we understand this will be an inconvenience to some, we have not taken the decision lightly and this decision will ensure the ongoing safety of our staff, children, and parents.

To confirm, we will now reopen on Monday 8th February.

We know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

The children and staff who had been in close contact with the individual who had tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) have already received a letter informing them that they must stay at home for 10 days.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 they should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at:

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

The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

The Staff and Trustees continue to work very hard to make sure your children remain safe and well and enjoy their time in setting and very much look forward to welcoming you back on the 8th February. We hope you all remain well and that we can at some point return to some sort of normality.

Many thanks,

Jayne Russell & Jo Galloway
Goudhurst Village Pre-school
Registered Charity No. 1152404

Jayne Russell: Chair/Trustee: jaynegvp@gmail.com Tel: 07766 553728
Jo Galloway: Manager joannegvp@gmail.com Tel: 07483 262753

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