

**Highcliffe Primary School –
EYFS Response to COVID**

EYFS COVID Risk/Benefit Analysis for Environment

An Enabling Early Years Environment

	If we do this	If we don't do this
Benefit	<p>Engagement –children more likely to want to be in the classroom, reduced separation anxiety, motivation, provision for all 7 areas of learning and the characteristics of effective learning, plus better levels of well being leading to improved outcomes and relationships. Children likely to settle more quickly and enjoy school, leading to better progress, long term impact of high quality EY provision is well documented.</p>	<p>Risk of infection through contamination is minimised Preparation workload is reduced Risks</p>
Risk	<p>Infection through contamination of shared resources</p>	<p>Children may be more reluctant to come into the setting, increased levels of separation anxiety. Impact on well being and involvement. Fewer opportunities to develop strong relationships with children and assess effectively, limited curriculum provision, potential behavioural issues due to inappropriate practice. Potential long term damage to both physical and cognitive development. Lower levels of well being impacting on mental health. Time sensitive periods missed due to inappropriate practice, potential issues in the longer term.</p>
Mitigation	<p>Increased hygiene, bubbles, reduced number of resources and areas, rotation, quarantine, removal of or amendments to some resources, smaller bubble sizes.</p>	

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Shared Mark Making Resources

For individual and very frequently used equipment, such as pencils and pens, it is

	If we do this	If we don't do this
Benefit	Increased opportunities to place mark making and writing in all areas of learning, supporting children's early pre writing and writing skills, creative development. Fine motor skills, manipulation, PD, CLL, EAD, CoEL.	Risk of infection is minimised
Risk	Cross infection from shared pens, pencils, crayons, markers etc	Limited opportunities to develop children's incidental writing and show that writing is something is beneficial and takes place in all areas of learning. Reduced opportunities to develop self regulation, executive function, CoEL , EAD, CLL,
Mitigation	Limited resources each day to avoid contamination on paper. Markmaking tools used in rotation.	

recommended that staff and pupils have their own items that are not shared.

	If we do this	If we don't do this
Benefit	Language and communication development, vocabulary development. Personal and social development, characteristics of effective learning, high levels of well being and involvement, literacy skills, creative development, understanding the world.	No risk of infection through contamination
Risk	Risk of infection through contamination, some soft furnishings which may harbour the virus	Reduced opportunities to develop language in meaningful contexts, reduced opportunities for developing friendships and relationships through play. Reduced opportunities for exploring feelings and developing self regulation
Mitigation	Reduce the number of items to easily washable materials, remove soft furnishings, quarantine, provide a role play which contains only washable items	

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Role Play

	If we do this	If we don't do this
Benefit	Physical activity, gross and fine motor control, spatial awareness, language and communication, mathematical thinking, creative development, prepositional language, understanding the world, creative development, expressive arts and design, vocabulary development . CLL, PSED. Well being.	No risk of infection
Risk	Infection from sharing blocks the virus can remain on the blocks for 2 days	Reduced opportunities for PSED, PD, SSM, Spatial development, motor development, communication and language, creativity, wellbeing, vocabulary, understanding the world
Mitigation	Rotation, quarantine	

Block Play

MALLEABLE AREAS WILL BE CLOSED ACROSS EYFS

SAND AREAS WILL BE CLOSED ACROSS EYFS

OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT WILL BE PLACED IN ROTATION (For example...)

Monday – MARK MAKING AND SMALL WORLD

Tuesday – SPORTS EQUIPMENT AND GARDENING/INVESTIGATION

Wednesday – ROLE PLAY AND WOODWORK

Thursday – CONSTRUCTION AND PARACHUTE

Friday – WATER AND WHEELED TOYS

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Construction

	If we do this	If we don't do this
Benefit	Development of fine motor skills, PSED, Physical development, language and communication, characteristics of effective learning, mathematical thinking and understanding the world. Opportunities to tell stories and develop mark making and writing in all areas, understanding the world, creative development.	No risk of infection through contaminated resources
Risk	Risk of infection through contaminated resources	Limited opportunities to develop children's imaginative skills, fine motor development, creativity, characteristics of effective learning and prime areas. Potential behaviour and well being issues due to limited opportunities for developmentally appropriate play
Mitigation	Rotation of lego, mobile etc Use of easily washable kits, increased hygiene, reduced resources	

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Small World

	If we do this	If we don't do this
Benefit	Opportunities for children to story, fine motor and manipulative skills, personal and social development , creative development, exploratory play, mark making opportunities, writing opportunities, understanding the world, creative development, vocabulary development, CoEL , CLL, PD, PSED, Well	No risk of infection through sharing resources
Risk	Risk of infection through contamination through sharing resources	Reduced opportunities to develop stories alongside children to model self talk and develop vocabulary in meaningful contexts. Reduced opportunity for children to tell their stories in a non threatening environment.
Mitigation	Reduced resources, quarantine, rotation.	

ART/CREATIVE AREA

	If we do this	If we don't do this
Benefit	Expressive arts and design, fine motor skills, well being, creativity, physical development, characteristics of effective learning, well being and involvement.	Reduced risk of infection through shared resources.
Risk	Risk of infection through contamination	Reduced opportunities for creativity, reduced opportunities for manipulative skills, expressive arts and design . Reduced opportunities to develop well being and opportunities for involvement.
Mitigation	Limited resources, resources available in rotation, individual resources for each child	

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Loose Parts

	If we do this	If we don't do this
Benefit	Fine motor control (particularly pincer grasp), object manipulation, spatial awareness, creative development, mathematical development, Characteristics of effective learning through creative and critical thinking, motivation and engagement	Reduced risk of infection through contaminated resources Reduced workload
Risk	Risk of infection through contamination	Limited opportunities to develop an awareness of pattern through free play, limited opportunities for object manipulation, creativity, counting and sorting, limited opportunities for communication and language
Mitigation	Change objects to washable and disposable resources and soak in Milton/ Soapy water Rotation and quarantine. Reduce number of objects to a washable amount	

Water

	If we do this	If we don't do this
Benefit	Free play, story telling, exploration of capacity and volume, communication and language, understanding the world, PSED, shape space and measure, expressive arts and design	Reduced risk of infection through contaminated toys
Risk	Risk of infection through contamination	Reduced opportunity for exploratory play and the development of early scientific thinking, understanding the world, problem solving, negotiation, turn taking.
Mitigation	Regular cleaning of resources, use of soap to break down lipids, rotation of equipment	

Book Area

	If we do this	If we don't do this
Benefit	Fostering and developing a love of early reading, developing children's understanding of language, developing language and communication by providing cosy spaces to talk, storying, understanding the world, vocabulary development . CoEL , CLL, Reading, Writing, PSED.	No risk of infection from books and soft furnishings
Risk	Paper harbours the virus for up to 4 days Soft furnishings can harbour the virus for up to 24 hours but that it is only likely to be on fabric if children have coughed or shed bodily fluids	Limited access to books, children may come to see books as something the teacher has access to rather than them, limited opportunities to share quiet and cosy times with adults and children

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Mitigation	Rotation of books and soft furnishings Hot wash for soft furnishings, increased hygiene
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Singing

	If we do this	If we don't do this
Benefit	Expressive arts and design, creativity, supports auditory discrimination which underpins phonic knowledge, well being, communication, language and literacy.	Reduced risk of infection through airborne transmission
Risk	Risk of transmission through airborne transmission	Reduced opportunity for expressive arts, reduced opportunities to explore rhymes and songs and develop auditory discrimination.
Mitigation	Singing outdoors with distancing, facing the same way and away from the teacher	