

Dear Parent/Carer,

16th March 2020

At Indigo, we want you to know that we are taking our responsibilities in response to Coronavirus very seriously. We are in uncertain times and thought it would be helpful for you to know the steps we have put in place as part of our efforts to protect your children, young people, family and staff during their time in our services.

What are we doing in response to Coronavirus?

At a strategic level a number of updates have been implemented to inform our position in such unprecedented times. The following websites are checked on a daily basis for updated information:

- Health Protection Scotland
- Care Inspectorate
- Scottish Government
- NHS on Coronavirus
- World Health Organisation

In addition, we are fortunate to have a range of professional expertise on our Board of Trustees including professionals in Public Health and Risk Management and they are providing guidance throughout our decision making.

All of this information is collated and shared at a daily morning conference call of the Management team, representing all services across the Group with a view to updating practice, information and any further changes to our contingency planning to date. We are making every effort in our day to day practice, to help limit the spread of the virus by putting the following in place:

- We are utilizing the outdoor areas more frequently, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for all weather outdoor play.
- All services have increased hand hygiene with all children, staff and visitors.
- All services have increased their cleaning schedules ensuring areas with high traffic cleaned more regularly.
- All doors, handles and high touch areas are being cleaned regularly.
- All dressing up clothing, soft toys and furnishings have been removed and are currently being laundered using anti-bacterial detergents.
- Within the playroom experiences such as, sand, water, baking/cooking and playdough have been removed as an extra precaution.
- Increased frequency of cleaning of resources with antibacterial sprays or through laundering
- Self-service snacks have been temporarily withdrawn and staff will serve children individually.

What can Parents/Carers do to assist in limiting the spread of the virus?

- Use the hand sanitizer provided at the entrance to the service for yourself and your child. Please do your own first and then assist your child.
- Encourage your child to have good hand hygiene at home and in service.
- Limit traffic within the service.
- Follow the government / NHS guidance
 - Wash hands with soap and water regularly throughout the day
 - Catch coughs and sneezes in a tissue, bin it, and wash your hands
 - Cough or sneeze into your elbow if no tissue.
 - If your child develops a high temperature of 37.8 or a persistent cough please keep them at home and follow NHS guidance to self-isolate for a period of 14 days. Similarly if anyone in your household has symptoms.
 - If your child develops these symptoms whilst in nursery, the same guidelines will be followed, we will make your child as comfortable as we can in isolation away from other children with a member of staff until either yourself or your emergency contact can collect them.
 - Similarly, any staff member presenting with above symptoms will also be asked to self-isolate for the recommended period.

It is important to note that fortunately so far, we have no confirmed cases of Corona Virus in any of our services. We have (as of March 16th) a member of staff and children in self-isolation, all who are well, with exception of the above symptoms, and are being well looked after at home. **We will do anything we can to support our families in self-isolation, please get in touch.**

I would like to stress that no decision has been made to close schools or services and we will continue to operate as normal unless professional advice and circumstances indicate otherwise.

Families are also asked to follow the wider guidance on social contact advised by the government.

From here on, we will continue to keep our families updated via social media and our website, please do a daily check for updates.

There has also been a FAQ briefing, pinned to the top of our Facebook page for your assistance and we are registered with a national charity to operate as a sponsor for grant funding for families who may find themselves in financial hardship as a result of these uncertain times. You can see more here: <https://www.aberlour.org.uk/urgentassistancefund/>

We understand that it is a worrying time, however we assure you, we will do everything we can to protect the wellbeing of your children young people and families and our staff and to continue to run services for as long as it does not increase risk to health.

Yours sincerely

Jacqueline Lamb
Chief Executive Officer