



Play in Ltd

COVID-19 Staff Policy

A) INTRODUCTION

Play in Ltd is committed to ensuring the health and safety of all employees. To this end, this policy sets out steps that Play in Ltd is taking in order to tackle the coronavirus outbreak, alongside expectations that are placed upon employees.

B) INFECTION CONTROL MEASURES

We strongly encourage all employees to follow these guidelines from the World Health Organisation on infection control, both whilst at work and in their daily lives. This includes:

- frequently cleaning their hands by using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water
- when coughing and sneezing, covering mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue, throwing this tissue away immediately and washing their hands
- avoiding close contact with anyone who has a fever and cough, asking them to wear a mask while in the setting.
- all staff have been advised to be fully vaccinated.
- all staff are required to do two natural flow tests a week and send their results into management.

C) IF YOU DEVELOP SYMPTOMS or TESTING POSITIVE

If you begin to display symptoms of the virus, or test positive on a weekly natural flow test you must follow government guidance to find out what to do next, which may involve internet and phone services. You should not go to your doctor's surgery. You must also notify your manager at the earliest opportunity. Management will require that you get a PCR test done straight away before coming back to the setting.

D) EMPLOYEE TRAVEL PLANS

Play in Ltd accepts that some of its employees will have plans to travel in the near future, including pre-booked and paid for holidays. Certain countries have been identified as having been severely affected by the virus and we would therefore ask that employees consider, for their health reasons, whether travelling to these areas is the best thing to do. If a decision is made to travel, we ask that employees let their manager know of the countries to be visited so that their return can be managed appropriately.

We also ask all employees to keep themselves up to date with government guidance on the countries which require self-isolation upon return, and bear in mind that this guidance can change on a daily basis.

If you would like to cancel any pre-booked annual leave, you should discuss this with your manager.

F) PERIODS OF SELF-ISOLATION

Staff will now only be asked to self-isolate if they start showing Covid symptoms and have a positive test result. If you return from a country which does not require automatic self-isolation,

and you are displaying no symptoms, you are expected to attend work as normal. However, if there is a reason why you think you may have been exposed to the virus, you should let your manager know before you return to work. You do not need to self-isolate if you have been in contact or live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 if they are fully vaccinated or not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons.

G) SENDING EMPLOYEES HOME/REQUIRING EMPLOYEES NOT TO ATTEND WORK

If we are concerned that you may have been exposed to the virus, even though you are not displaying symptoms and/or are fully vaccinated, we may make the decision to send you home and request that you have a PCR test done. This may occur if, for example, you inform us that you have been in close contact with someone else who has, or may have, the virus. This also includes if we have informed you about been in close contact with a child, member of staff or parent within the work place. This is treated as a period of absence for medical reasons. It is not considered a disciplinary sanction; the period of absence will be in recognition of the possibility that your continued presence in the workplace poses a risk of spreading the virus. If, during this period of suspension, you develop symptoms, you should contact management as soon as possibly and follow government guidance on what to do next, and also follow our normal sickness reporting procedures. You will then be treated as being on a period of sickness absence.

(*statutory sick pay (SSP) in accordance with legal requirements in force from time to time/ pay in accordance with our contractual sick pay subject to meeting qualifying criteria.)
Alternatively, we may agree a period of paid annual leave with you.

H) EMPLOYEES WHO CONTRACT THE VIRUS

If you contract the virus, you should take and follow medical advice on the length of your sickness absence. You are required to produce a medical certificate for illnesses lasting seven calendar days or more, however, we appreciate that you are not likely to be in a position to obtain a medical certificate in usual timescales, therefore you should provide it as soon as is reasonably practicable. During your absence, our normal sickness absences rules will apply and you will receive **(*statutory sick pay (SSP) in accordance with legal requirements in force from time to time/pay in accordance with our contractual sick pay subject to meeting qualifying criteria.)**

I) ATTENDANCE AT WORK

Unless you have followed our usual reporting procedures in relation to sickness absence, are in self-isolation following government guidance or not attending work under our specific instruction, you are expected to attend work as normal.

J) TEMPORARY BUSINESS CLOSURE

As time progresses, it may become clear that the business is temporarily unable to continue its operations as normal. In this scenario, we may be forced to close all, or part, of the business temporarily until such a time as we are able to resume operations. Whilst we will do everything we can to ensure that this does not happen, we may be left with no option but to place you on lay off, short time working or furlough. (*During this period, your pay will be reduced accordingly and you may receive statutory guarantee pay in line with statutory provisions)

K) WORKING FROM ANOTHER LOCATION

It may be necessary for us to require you to work from an alternative work location if, for example, instructions from a third party mean that entry into our current workplace is not permitted. Your flexibility in this regard will be expected, however, all instructions of this nature will be reasonable.

Play in Ltd will consider, as part of its general approach to maintaining normal business operations, whether employees are to work from home. Obviously, this will not be possible in every case due to the nature of individual roles. However, we will assess the viability of this option, taking into consideration any equipment needed, at the relevant time and, as a result, you may be required to work from home for a temporary period. Employees should not assume that they will be permitted to work from home and advance authorisation will be needed in every case.

L) HARASSMENT/BULLYING

We operate a zero tolerance policy to all forms of harassment and bullying in the workplace. We will not tolerate any unacceptable behaviour to colleagues, suppliers, members of the public etc. Any complaints of this nature will be investigated in line with our usual policy and may result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

M) EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

We would like to remind employees that, if they have any worries or concerns about any aspect of the current situation, they have access to a confidential telephone service with the Manager Niala Haq contact details: 07592112520 .

This policy was adopted by: Play in Ltd	Date: Sept 2021
To be reviewed: Sept 2022	Signed:

Written in accordance with the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2021): Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Health [3.45-3.47]*