

Appendix 2: Minimizing the risk of spreading coronavirus

School Readiness and Wellbeing Study: Minimising the Risk of Spreading Coronavirus

This year is a particularly important year for studying children's wellbeing and development across the transition to school, but this requires enhanced safe-guarding to minimise the risk of spreading COVID-19. The protective measures summarised below will be regularly reviewed to ensure that they accord with current safeguarding guidance from the Department of Education and Public Health England.

- 1) *Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell.* All researchers will be vigilant for symptoms (cough, temperature, anosmia) and if present, will use university **antigen testing services** and only return to work if they are feeling better AND have a negative test result. The researchers will not visit any schools where COVID-19 has been detected. Visits will not recommence until 14 days have passed.
- 2) *Clean your hands thoroughly more often than usual.* All researchers will **wash their hands thoroughly when visiting schools and use sanitiser between testing sessions with children.**
- 3) *Catch it, bin it, kill it.* All researchers will be trained to avoid touching mouth, eyes or nose, **instantly binning disposable tissues after each use and washing hands again /using sanitiser.**
- 4) *Enhanced cleaning.* Between each child-friendly observation, we will thoroughly **clean all our play materials** (Mobilio). Our laminated task booklets will be cleaned with detergent and given a **72-hour quarantine period** between each use. Researchers will wear clean clothes every day and clothes will be washed daily. Researchers will change their clothes and take their shoes off when they arrive home to protect their families/household partners from inadvertent transmission.
- 5) *Minimise contact and maintain distancing wherever possible.* We will **conduct testing outside**, using test materials adjusted to facilitate maintain social distancing (e.g., enlarged pictures). **Individual researchers will be assigned to individual schools and remain with those schools as a 'bubble'** until testing is complete. Each researcher will read each school's COVID-19 policies and will abide by these policies (e.g., with respect to frequency of visits and prescribed procedures if a child needs to use the toilet).

During testing periods researchers will not come into the University to avoid unwittingly affect University-based staff.

- 6) *If necessary, wear PPE.* Although PPE is not widely used within primary school settings – **we will bring our own PPE with us**, for use if recommended by a particular school.
- 7) *Test and Trace.* We will provide contact information for each school, to enable **compliance with the NHS test and trace process.**