**Procedure for children/ staff presenting with symptoms of Covid-19**

Symptoms:

* A tympanic temperature over 38 degrees C.
* An earache
* A deep, dry or hacking cough.
* Sore throat/ runny nose
* Severe congestion.
* Muscle/ body aches and pains
* Difficulty breathing or untreated wheezing.
* Unexplained fatigue

If a child is displaying symptoms of a virus at the Willow Tree Children’s Centre, the parent(s) will be advised to collect their child immediately and contact their general practitioner. During this time the child displaying symptoms will wait in the isolation area (the office). If for some reason, the parent cannot collect they should organise an authorised adult to collect their child.

The child presenting with symptoms will wash their hands prior to entering the isolation room. They will be required to wear a mask and the member of staff waiting with the child will also be required wear a mask and gloves. The window in the isolation room will be opened and remain open for ventilation. In line with our Infectious Disease Exclusion policy the child will not return to the setting until they are feeling better, their temperature returns to normal or they have received a negative test result .

The room and/or anything the child has touched will be deep cleaned. If a positive result returns then the Early Years Inspectorate team (TUSLA) will be notified and we will take the necessary advice and actions recommended by them.

The same procedure applies for a staff member presenting with respiratory symptoms. On arrival to the service each staff member will have their temperature taken. If a staff member has a high temperature or any other symptoms prior to entering the service, they should not enter the service. If symptoms present during the workday, that staff member should gather their belongings and go home immediately. They should ring their GP and organise testing as soon as possible. Likewise, they will not return to the setting for a period of 2 weeks or until a negative result is confirmed.