



Infection Control Policy

UNCRC Article 24: Children have the right to good quality health care - the best health care possible - to safe drinking water, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help them stay healthy. Rich countries should help poorer countries achieve this.

The nursery has a duty to protect the health, safety and welfare of all users and employees as well as a duty of care. In addition to this the prevention and control of infection is essential in helping to establish a safe and secure environment in which children can learn and develop through play.

The following policy has been written based on the current guidance published by The Scottish Government, *National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16*, September 2009 (with specific reference to care standards 2 and 14); Health Protection Scotland, *Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings (Day Care and Childminding Settings)* September 2015; Care Inspectorate, *Disposable Gloves: use and management*, 10th April 2014; Care Inspectorate *Hand hygiene: information to support improvement*, November 2014.

All staff have successfully completed the REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene and the REHIS Infection Control course.

Minimise sources of contamination

- Staff are required to maintain their food hygiene and infection control certification.
- Food that requires refrigeration is covered and dated within a refrigerator, at a temperature of 4°C or below.
- Hands are washed before and after handling food.
- Food storage and preparation areas are cleaned with hot soapy water followed by an anti-bacterial clean.
- Food is purchased from reputable sources and used by the recommended date.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE), specifically gloves are stored in the original box to ensure identification of batch number and expiry date. All PPE is stored in a cupboard or drawer to prevent environmental contamination. The Medical and Healthcare products Regulatory Agent www.mhra.gov.uk is checked monthly to ensure awareness of any safety alerts linked to gloves in use by setting.

To control the spread of infection

- Good hand washing procedures are adhered to.
- Children will wash their hands after playing outside.
- Children are encouraged to blow and wipe their own noses with tissues which are disposed of hygienically and then to wash their hands.
- Records are kept of:
 - The temperature in the fridge and freezer.
 - Washing of toys.
 - Cleaning children's toilets.
 - Checking the outside play area before each session.
- Different cloths are kept for different areas and are laundered daily. Clean cloths are used for each session.
- Sand trays covered when not in use, sand spillages are discarded and sand replaced at the end of each term or sooner if necessary.
- Water trays are emptied after each session, cleaned with warm soapy water and dried with disposable paper towels.
- Playdough is stored in an airtight container overnight and replaced weekly or sooner if necessary.
- Children are encouraged to wash their hands before using the sand, water and playdough. Any visible cuts on hands are covered.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) is worn when preparing food and dealing with intimate care needs. Blue aprons are designated for kitchen use and white aprons for intimate care needs.
- Changing mat is cleaned between the morning and afternoon class and before and after each use.
- When dealing with blood or bodily fluids - PPE is worn, soiled articles are sealed and double bagged and placed in the designated disposal bin. Nappies are bagged and placed in the designated nappy bin located in the changing room.

To raise awareness of hygiene procedures

- Inform all staff of the requirement to keep up to date with current training.

- Ensure new staff/students are aware of the existing policies and procedures.
- Provide visual instructions where possible for ease of understanding.
- Talk to the children about hand hygiene, use of tissues and have child friendly visual instructions around sinks.

To prevent cross contamination

- Ensure that adults and children have separate toilet facilities.
- Use of disposable wipes and paper towels in toilet areas.
- Different cloths are used for different areas and are laundered daily. Clean cloths are used for each session.

To prevent the persistence and further spread of infection

- It is the duty of staff to report illnesses and infections to their line manager.
- Toilet seats, flush handles, toilet doors and sinks are wiped between sessions using antibacterial wipes/spray.
- Dedicated hand washing sinks are clearly marked.
- Staff to be vigilant to signs of infection and outbreaks reported to the Senior Management Team who should follow the school's infection control policy measures
- Ask parents to keep children at home if they have infections and to inform the nursery as to the nature of the infection.
- Children should not return to nursery until 48 hours after the systems have passed if they have been off with sickness or diarrhoea. For information regarding to other communicable diseases then refer to the www.nhsgrampian.org.uk exclusion policies for infectious diseases (a printed copy is available in the school office)

Updated February 2016

Review February 2017