



**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 procedure has been written based on, *Health and Social Care Standards My support, my life*, (regarding descriptive statements 3.14 and 5.22), Care Inspectorate, 2017; *Health Protection Scotland, Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings (Day Care and Childminding Settings)*, Health Protection Scotland, May 2018; *Disposable Gloves: use and management*, Care Inspectorate, April 2014; *Hand hygiene: information to support improvement*, Care Inspectorate, 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 via the School Catering Team from Aberdeenshire Council recommended suppliers. Food required to be refrigerated is put away immediately and all food is 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](http://www.mhra.gov.uk) is

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checked/recorded 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 every session
  - Kitchen appliance cleaning and stock rotation
  - Cleaning children's toilets
  - Checking the outside play area before each session
  - Freezer defrosting
- Disposable cloths are used on all surfaces and disposed of immediately after use. **RED** cloths are used for kitchen surfaces, **BLUE** cloths are used for dishes, **GREEN** cloths are used for tabletops and surfaces
- Sand trays are 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, trays and toys are 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. Messy play is replaced as necessary and resources cleaned with hot soapy water.
- Outdoor areas i.e. mud kitchen, are cleaned out and resources are replenished termly.
- 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

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aprons for intimate care needs. Separate aprons are used for food preparation and food service to prevent cross contamination.

- Changing mat is cleaned between the morning and afternoon sessions and before and after each use with disinfectant cleaner.
- 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. Any clothing which is contaminated with bodily fluids are double bagged, labelled and placed into the designated box in the changing room. A post-it note label is placed into the child's pigeon hole so that staff are aware they have clothes in the box to take home. This is then placed into the child's bag at home time and parent/carer informed.

### 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 through induction checklist.
- 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.
- Spray and paper towels are used and disposed of immediately after use.
- PPE worn when required and correctly disposed of.

### To prevent the persistence and further spread of infection

- It is the duty of staff to report illnesses and infections to their line manager (EYSP).
- Toilet seats, flush handles, toilet doors and sinks are wiped between sessions using disinfectant and disposable cloths.
- Dedicated hand washing sinks are clearly marked.

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- Staff to be vigilant to signs of infection and outbreaks as defined by the Care Inspectorate. Outbreaks will be recorded following the guidance from Health Protection Scotland and reported to the Senior Leadership Team. They will follow the school's infection control policy measures, including informing the Care Inspectorate and the Health Protection Team.
- 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 other communicable diseases refer to *Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings (Day Care & Childminding Settings) May 2018, Appendix 3 - Exclusion criteria for childcare and childminding settings.*

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