

Infection Prevention & Control Policy

Little Friends Private Day Care Nursery recognises the importance of infection control.

Principles

Article 24 U.N. Convention of the Rights of the Child, states:

“Children have the right to be as healthy as possible, live and play in a safe and healthy unpolluted environment and benefit from preventive health care and education.”

Statement of Intent

We are committed to creating an environment for children and adults that is free from infection. In order to achieve this, the following procedures will be followed.

Hand Washing

Hand washing is the most important health measure. Effective hand washing is the mainstay of infection control for most germs amongst children and adults in a nursery setting, regardless of the way germs are transmitted.

Procedures

- Hands will be washed after using the toilet and before meals.
- Very young children will need assistance in hand washing.
- Older children will be supervised during hand washing.
- Liquid soap will be used rather than a bar of soap.
- Pre-moistened wipes should not be used as a substitute to soap and running water.
- Paper towels will be used to dry hands.
- Hands will be washed vigorously using a small amount of unscented liquid soap.
- Hands will be rubbed together covering all surfaces until a good lather has appeared on all skin surfaces. Allow to lather for at least 10 seconds and rinse thoroughly.

Accidental Soiling

Staff are not permitted to carry out sluicing of clothes ie. Rinsing soiled clothes due to toileting/ vomiting accidents, under the tap.

Procedures

- Soiled material should be scraped off into the toilet.
- Wear disposable gloves and apron when doing this.
- Place the soiled items in a double bag for parents to launder.
- Staff must wash their hands after handling soiled clothing, even if wearing gloves.

Nappy Changing

In these circumstances, staff will follow:

Procedures

- The nappy changing areas should be separate from play activities and kitchen areas.
- Staff should wear disposable gloves and a white apron when changing children.
- The child should be made comfortable when placed on the changing mat.
- When the wet/ soiled nappy is removed the child should be cleaned from front to back, then a clean nappy secured on the child.
- Used nappy and changing materials are disposed of in a double bag into a napsan disposable bin.
- Staff should remove gloves.
- Wipe the child's hands.
- Seat the child safely.
- Staff should thoroughly clean the changing mat and the surrounding floor with anti-bacterial spray.
- Staff should dispose of their apron in the black bin and wash hands.
- Staff should return to the playroom.
- Thorough cleaning of the toilets and affected areas at the end of the day.

Cleaning of the Toilet Area

Staff is to ensure that the toilets are clean at the start and the finish of the day. Additional cleaning should be carried out during the day as necessary.

Procedures

- All toilets are to be cleaned down daily with hot soapy water. This applies to the toilet seat and handles, sinks, taps and door handles.
- If an area becomes contaminated with infected materials i.e. Diarrhoea or vomit, the area will be washed immediately and spillages attended to as they occur.
- Toilet paper will be provided for the children at all times.
- Staff will report any shortage to the leader immediately; children will be supervised when going to the toilet.
- Children will be educated on how to wash their hands properly.
- The water should be checked regularly to ensure the correct temperature for hand washing.

Cleaning Materials

Cleaning materials will be colour coded and staff will adhere to this.

Procedures

- Cloths should be disposable or changed daily or as necessary.
- Mops will be washed thoroughly after use in a cleaning equipment sink with hot soapy water and left to dry.

- Mops used to clean bodily fluids should be:
 - ✓ Cleaned with hot soapy water
 - ✓ Rinsed with disinfecting agent
 - ✓ Wrung as dry as possible
 - ✓ Hung to dry completely
- Buckets and basins will be washed out and dried after use. Separate cleaning materials will be used for the kitchen and the toilet.

Cleaning of Toys, Equipment and Furnishings

Staff will ensure all are cleaned on a regular basis.

Procedures

- Mats will be vacuumed daily and steam cleaned when required.
- Tables and chairs will be cleaned and washed with hot water and detergent daily.
- Hard toys will be washed with hot water and detergent and dried. (On a fortnightly basis)
- Additional cleaning will be carried out when required.
- Soft toys will be washed in the washing machine on a hot cycle and tumble dried.
- Water play toys should be stored dry and the water tray should be emptied, rinsed and dried out daily by turning upside down so that no condensation can collect.
- Playdough should be changed weekly or as necessary and children will be discouraged from putting dough in their mouths.
- In the case of an outbreak of infection, all water play will cease and playdough will be disposed of.
- Sand will be sieved on a weekly basis.
- Extra care will be given where babies and toddlers are using soft toys and equipment and washed on a regular basis.

Exclusion of Sick Children

Should a child have an infectious illness they are required to stay away from nursery for the exclusion period described in the Parent Pack. This is vital to minimise the spread of infection within Little Friends.

Procedures

- Children with an infectious disease should not be brought to Little Friends. Once the exclusion period has been met and the child is well again they can then return to nursery.
- If a child falls ill whilst at Little Friends, the child may be kept separate from the other children.
- A member of staff will stay with the child while arrangements are being made for the child's parent/ guardian to be contacted and arrangements made for the child to be taken home.

Staff

All staff is required to follow the procedure in order to minimise the spread of infection.

Procedures

- All staff will cover all cuts, breaks in their skin, scratches or moist skin conditions with a water proof dressings (without visible air holes) when they are at work.
- Dressing and plasters will be replaced as often as necessary, and these will be blue if staff is involved in preparing food.
- All staff immunisations will be checked and staff will reports symptoms of sickness to the management team.
- Staff will observe exclusion periods on infectious diseases and advice will be sought if in doubt.
- Some infections if caught by a pregnant woman can pose a danger to her unborn child.
- Chicken pox, rubella, parvovirus – when an outbreak of any of these occurs please inform parents immediately.
- If a female staff member comes into contact with the above she will contact the management team and her GP immediately.

Animals in Early Years Centre's

During the year we may have visits from animals and their carers. We may also go on visits to a farm, wild life park etc.

Procedures

- Children will be supervised at all times around animals.
- Visiting pets will only be in the play room and the area will be disinfected on their departure.
- If visiting a farm the management will carry out a risk assessment. The leader will check that the farm has washing facilities adequate and accessible for children. The management team/ supervisor will check there is running water, liquid soap and disposable towels.
- Children will be told they must not eat or drink anything while touring the farm or put their fingers in their mouths, because of risk of infection.
- Children will be warned not to put their faces against the animals or taste the animals feed.
- Staff will ensure children wash their hands after being in contact with animals and particularly before eating or drinking.
- Snack time will be taken away from the area where the animals are kept.
- Staff will ensure children wear suitable footwear i.e. Wellington boots and strong shoes.
- Children's allergies will be considered prior to the visit i.e. Asthma.
- Staff will ensure all children will wash their hands thoroughly before departure and that footwear is as clean as possible from faecal material.

Food Hygiene

Staff will ensure that good hygiene is followed and every precaution is made to minimise infection.

Procedure

- Snack tables will be washed down with detergent and hot water prior to and after snack time.
- Toast will be served on individual plates which are easily washed.
- Children will be encouraged to use knives to butter their own toast.

- Fridge temperatures will be recorded daily and will be kept at between 4 & 8 degrees, a thermometer will be kept by the fridge.
- Separate chopping boards will be used for preparing all meats, vegetables, breads etc. and a colour coding system will be displayed. All utensils will be washed thoroughly on a daily basis.
- Tea towels should be laundered at 60 degrees on a daily basis.

Public Health Agency contact number – 0300 555 0114

Links to other policies

Child/ Adult Illness Policy

Child & Adult Protection Policy

Confidentiality Policy

Health & Safety Policy

Partnership with Parents/ Carers Policy

Signed: _____

Date: _____