

Infection Prevention and Control Policy

Bunnahone Bunnies Cross Community Playgroup recognises the importance of infection control within our setting.

Principles:

(Article 24 U.N. Convention of the Rights of a Child) state that:

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

Policy Statement of Intent:

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

Hand Washing: hand washing is the most important public health measure. Effective hand washing is the mainstay of infection control for most germs amongst children and adults in an early years centre, 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 bar soap
- Pre-moistened wipes will 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 i.e. rinsing clothes due to toileting/ vomiting accident under the tap

Procedures:

- Soiled materials can be scraped off into the toilet
- Wear disposable gloves and disposable aprons when doing this.

- Place the soiled clothes in a double bag for parents to launder
- Staff must wash their hands after handling soiled clothing, even if wearing gloves.

Nappy Changing: Special Circumstances Only: in such circumstances i.e. staff will follow procedures:

- This area will be separate from play activities and kitchen area
- Staff will wear disposable gloves and aprons when changing children
- The child should be made comfortable and placed on the changing mat
- Wet/soiled nappy removed, and the child cleaned by wiping from front to back
- Clean nappy secured on child
- Used nappy and changed materials disposed of in a double bag into nappies disposal bin
- Staff will remove gloves
- Wipe child's hands
- Child will be seated safely
- Staff will thoroughly clean changing mat and surrounding floor with antibacterial cleaner
- Staff will dispose of apron and wash hands
- Staff to return to the playroom
- Thorough cleaning of toilets and affected areas at end of the session.

Cleaning of Toilets Area: staff are to ensure that the toilets are clean at the start and finish of the session. Additional cleaning should be carried out during the session as necessary.

Procedures:

- All toilets are to be cleaned down daily with hot soapy water. This also applies to the toilet seat and handles, sinks, taps and door handles- If the toilet seat is stained a cream cleanser and disposable cloths will be used.
- If an area becomes contaminated with infected materials i.e. diarrhea or vomit (not urine), the area will be washed immediately, and spillage attended as they occur
- Toilet paper will always be provided for the children (toilet roll holders to be provided in close proximity)
- Staff will report any shortage to the leader immediately, children (age appropriate) will be supervised when using the toilet

- Children will be educated on how to wash their hands properly
- The water will be checked regularly to ensure correct temperature for hand washing.

Cleaning Materials

Procedures:

- Cloths should be disposable or changed daily or as necessary
- Mops will be washed thoroughly after use in a cleaning equipment sink (not in kitchen sink) with hot soapy water and left to dry.
- Mops used to clean bodily fluids should be cleaned with hot soapy water, rinsed with a disinfecting agent, wrung as dry as possible and hung to dry completely.
- Buckets and basins will be washed out and dried after use.

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 as required (at least once a year)
- Tables and chairs will be cleaned and washed with hot water and detergent daily
- Hand toys will be washed with hot water and detergent and dried (on a monthly basis)
- Additional cleaning will be carried out when required
- Soft toys will be washed in the washing machine at a hot cycle (minimum 60 c) and tumble dried
- Water play toys should be stored dry and water tray should be emptied, rinsed and dried out daily by turning upside down so that no condensation can collect
- Play dough 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 play dough will be disposed of
- Sand will be sieved on a weekly basis
- In the case of an outbreak of threadworms, all sand play will cease for 2 weeks after the outbreak finishes. The sand will be disposed of and fresh sand introduced.

EXCLUSION OF SICK CHILDREN

Infection spreads very quickly in playschool. To minimize the risk of spreading infection certain guidelines should be followed:

- CHILDREN MUST NOT BE ADMITTED TO THE PLAYSCHOOL WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS OF SICKNESS OR DIARRHOEA, AND PARENTS/CARERS SHOULD NOTIFY THE STAFF OF ANY SUCH CASE IMMEDIATELY.
- Children who are unwell with an infection including coughs or colds should not attend playschool. Parents/carers should inform the playschool of any infection that their child is suffering from as soon as possible.
- The playschool has to report any notifiable disease, such as e-coli, meningitis, etc. to the Health Visitor, Communicable Disease Control and Ofsted.
- Parents should be aware of the risk to pregnant mothers of diseases such as Rubella (German Measles) and Slap Cheek.

Procedures:

- Children who are unwell with an infectious disease should not be the playgroup. Once they are better, they can return unless they pose a risk to others.
- If a child falls ill whilst at the Playschool, the sick Child will be excluded from the others to a designated area.
- A member of staff will stay with the child while arrangements are being made for the child's parents to be contacted and arrangements made for the child to be sent home.

Communicable Diseases and Exclusion Timescale

<p>If your child is suffering from one of the illnesses below, you must adhere to Bunnahone Bunnies' policy for medical exclusions</p>	
Chickenpox	Until blisters have crusted over or the skin is healed (usually 5 days)
Conjunctivitis	Most cases of conjunctivitis are viral and antibiotics will not be prescribed. We exclude until the Child is clear of the conjunctivitis
Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	Need to be excluded if they have 2 consecutive watery motions and/or vomits twice. They can only return 48 hours after last bout of diarrhea and/or vomiting
Scabies	After treatment has been completed. Need to remember that the itchy rash will continue for 3-4 weeks after treatment
Threadworm	Do not need to exclude. Drugs can be used from 3 months onwards. Strict hygiene procedures need to be implemented
Mumps	For 5 days after the swelling has appeared
Hand, foot and mouth disease	They do not need to be excluded if they only have white spots. Once they become blisters they need to be excluded until they are all crusted over. Infected children can excrete the virus in the faeces for 4 weeks afterwards. Pregnant women should tell their GP/Midwife if contact with the disease.
Impetigo	For 1 to 2 days whilst treatment is being given and the sore has crusted over
Herpes Simplex (cold sores)	Only exclude if child is unwell. To reduce the spread of the virus we ask parents to provide a cup for their child. Staff need to wash their hands after handling the child etc.
Scarlet Fever (Scarletina)	Exclude until they have had at least 5 days of antibiotics
Ringworm	Exclude for 48 hours whilst treatment is commenced. Must ensure treatment continues for a week after the red area has disappeared.
German Measles/Rubella	For 7 days after onset of rash. Must inform women In the early stages of pregnancy to go to their GP and check that they have the immunity
Whooping Cough	Exclude until at least 5 days of antibiotics have been given. Coughing bouts can last for up to 6-8 weeks. Older children may have mild form and will need to be excluded for up to at least 2 weeks.
Head Lice	Treatment must be carried out upon discovery. Child must be re-treated a few days later due to the eggs (nits) hatching. No exclusion necessary
Viral Infection	Need to be excluded if the child is unwell and until the child's temperature remains normal without the aid of paracetamol
Antibiotics	Children must have the first dose of antibiotic at home, just in case they have a reaction. (must be 12 hrs between first dose and return to pre-school)

Immunisation Protocol	Need to be excluded for at least 24 hrs after they have had their vaccination. This is to allow the child to overcome any reaction that may materialise.
Please note the exclusion guidelines have come from the NHS Direct Healthcare Guide	

Staff- staff are required to follow the procedures 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 waterproof dressing (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 are involved in preparing food.
- All staff immunisation's will be checked and staff will report symptoms of sickness to the leader
- Staff will observe exclusion periods of infectious disease and advice will be sought if in doubt
- Some infections if caught by a pregnant women can pose a danger to her unborn child e.g. chicken pox, rubella and parvovirus. When an outbreak of any of these occurs please inform parents immediately
- If a female member of staff comes into contact with the above she will contact her leader and GP immediately.

Animal in Playgroup centre - During the year we do have visits from animals and their carers. We also may go on visits to a farm, zoo, wildlife park etc.

Procedures

- Written consent will be obtained from parents prior to any contact with animals
- Children will be supervised at all times around animals
- Visiting pets will only be in the playroom and the area will be disinfected on their departure.
- If visiting a farm, the leader will carry out a risk assessment. The leader will check that the farm has washing facilities adequate and accessible for children. Leader 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 the risk of infection.
- Children will be told not to put their faces against the animals or taste the animal 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 materials.

Food Hygiene - staff will ensure that good hygiene is followed, and every precaution is made to minimise infection

Procedures

- Snack tables will be washed with detergent and hot water prior to and after snack time
- Toast will be served on individual plates which are easily washed
- Fridge temperature will be recorded daily and will be kept between 4 c and 8 c; a thermometer will be kept in the fridge
- Separate chopping boards will be used for preparing fruit and toast. All utensils will be washed thoroughly on a daily basis
- Tea towels should be laundered at 60 c on a daily basis

