

## **Hygiene/Infection Control Policy.**

*Providers must ensure there are an adequate number of toilets and hand basins available. Providers must ensure there are suitable hygienic changing facilities for changing any children who are in nappies. And providers should ensure that an adequate supply of clean bedding, towels, spare clothes and any other necessary items is always available.*

*EYFS Statutory Framework. Pg. 28*

### **Our policy for Hygiene:**

#### **We believe:**

Staff are responsible for supervising the needs of the children with regard to hygiene. And promote the importance of this from the moment your child begins their time at nursery.

### **Our policy for Infection Control:**

Viruses and infections can be easily passed from person to person by breathing in air containing the virus which is produced when an infected person talks, coughs or sneezes. It can also spread through hand/face contact after touching a person or surface contaminated with viruses.

Staff, parents/carers and families are all responsible for managing infection control and promoting it to all children and families.

### **Our procedures for Hygiene:**

#### **We support this by:**

- Encouraging the children to wash their hands using soap and hot water before eating snacks and meals.
- Children will be encouraged to wash their hands after activities both indoors and out.
- Children will wash their hands after handling pets or insects.
- For cross contamination purposes staff will wear gloves and aprons when dealing with bodily fluids.
- Staff will not enter the kitchen without the appropriate clothing.
- Toys and equipment will be washed at least once a week.
- Bedding, cushions, bean bags, face cloths etc will be washed daily.
- Nursery will be cleaned every morning and afternoon and will have a deep clean termly.
- Children will be encouraged good manners e.g. holding hands over mouths when coughing or sneezing and using tissues.

### **Our procedures for Infection Control:**

We follow the guidance below to prevent a virus or infection from spreading around the nursery. Our staff:

- Encourage all children to use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch germs
- Ensure all tissues are disposed of in a hygienic way and all children and staff wash their hands once the tissue is disposed of
- Develop children's understanding of the above and the need for good hygiene procedures in helping them to stay healthy
- Wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when changing nappies, toileting children and dealing with any other bodily fluids. Staff are requested to dispose of these in the appropriate manner and wash hands immediately
- Clean and sterilise all potties and changing mats before and after each use
- Clean toilets at least daily and check them throughout the day
- Remind children to wash their hands before eating, after visiting the toilet, playing outside or being in contact with any animal and explain the reasons for this
- Clean all toys, equipment and resources on a regular basis by following a comprehensive cleaning rota and using antibacterial cleanser, or through washing in the washing machine
- Wash or clean all equipment used by babies and toddlers as and when needed, including when the children have placed it in their mouth
- Store dummies in individual hygienic dummy boxes labelled with the child's name to prevent cross-contamination with other children
- Store toothbrushes (where applicable) hygienically to prevent cross-contamination
- Immediately clean and sterilise (where necessary) any dummy or bottle that falls on the floor or is picked up by another child
- Provide labelled individual bedding for children that is not used by any other child and wash this at least once a week
- Ask parents and visitors to remove all outdoor footwear, or use shoe covers, when entering rooms where children may be crawling or sitting on the floor
- Where applicable wear specific indoor shoes or slippers whilst inside the rooms and make sure that children wear them as well
- Follow the sickness and illness policy when children are ill to prevent the spread of any infection in the nursery. Staff are also requested to stay at home if they are contagious.

In addition:

- The nursery manager retains the right of refusal of all children, parents, staff and visitors who are deemed contagious and may impact on the welfare of the rest of the nursery
- Parents will be made aware of the need for these procedures in order for them to follow these guidelines whilst in the nursery
- Periodically each room in the nursery will be deep cleaned including carpets and soft furnishings to ensure the spread of infection is limited. This will be implemented earlier if the need arises

- In the event of an infection outbreak the nursery will, where appropriate, undertake a deep clean to ensure the spread of infection is contained
- We will follow any the Government health guidance, as well as legal advice and our information from our insurers on any national outbreak of a virus/ pandemic and keep parents informed of any course of action. Each specific circumstances will differ and to ensure we take the most appropriate action we will treat each case on an individual basis.
- In addition, where contagious outbreaks occur, will adopt government guidance for all visitors to minimise risk of further spreading the risk of infection
- The nursery will ensure stocks of tissues, hand washing equipment, cleaning materials and sterilising fluid are maintained at all times and increased during the winter months or when flu and cold germs are circulating.