



Little Learners
NURSERY GROUP

Infection Control

Reviewed: July 2023

To be reviewed: July 2024

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.

The best way to prevent a virus or infection from moving around the nursery environment is to maintain high hygiene standards in the nursery. To do this we will follow the guidance below:

- Try to ensure that all children use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch all 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
- Encourage all children to do the above by discussing the need for good hygiene procedures in helping them to stay healthy
- Staff will all 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
- All potties and changing mats are cleaned and sterilised before and after each use
- Toilets are cleaned at least daily
- Staff are to 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

- All toys, equipment and resources will be cleaned on a regular basis by following a comprehensive cleaning rota and using antibacterial cleanser or through washing in the washing machine. Using a colour-coded system for all relevant cleaning equipment which is used in the areas as identified by the various colours.
- All equipment used by babies and toddlers will be washed or cleaned as and when they need it – this includes when the children have placed it in their mouth
- Dummies will be stored in individual hygienic dummy boxes labelled with the child's name to prevent cross-contamination with other children
- If a dummy or bottle falls on the floor or is picked up by another child, this is cleaned immediately and sterilised where necessary
- Individual bedding will be used by children. This will be washed each day.
- All staff and children will be required to wear specific indoor shoes or slippers whilst inside the rooms
- Parents and visitors will be required to use shoe covers or remove all outdoor footwear and use spare slippers when entering the baby room
- When children are ill we will follow the sickness and illness policy to prevent the spread of any infection in the nursery. Staff are also requested to stay at home if they are contagious
- The Principal, nursery manager/deputy 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
- 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.

- Parents must inform the nursery immediately and keep the nursery up to date if they have reason to suspect an infectious disease. This could be for your child or pertaining to any other person who makes contact with the nursery. For example, picking up and dropping off children. If a child or carer is diagnosed with an infectious disease guidelines must be followed in terms of isolation/exclusion periods.

If an outbreak of a contagious infection is identified in the nursery, all parents will be informed to enable them to spot the early signs of this illness in their own child. All equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child will be cleaned and sterilized thoroughly to reduce the spread of infection.

Nursery Principal or managers will contact the Local Health Protection team as soon as an outbreak is suspected to discuss the situation and agree if any actions are needed and follow the recommended guidelines provided by the Public Health Executive. Parents must also follow the recommendations.

Please see:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/789369/Exclusion_table.pdf

Confidentiality

Information given to settings from the team for distribution during an outbreak will never give out any personal details.