



Infection Control Policy

Viruses and infections can be easily passed from person to person by breathing in air containing the virus 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 setting is to maintain the high hygiene standards at Spice Childcare. To do this we will follow the below guidance:

- Ensure 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/use anti-bacterial gel 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 wear all 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 before and after each use.
- Toilets are cleaned at least daily.
- Staff are to remind children to wash their hands after visiting the toilet, before eating, playing outside or being in contact with any animal.
- 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.
- 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 boxes labeled 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 and labelled. This will be washed at least once a week and not used for any other child.
- Parents will be made aware of the need for these procedures in order for them to follow these guidelines whilst in the setting.
- When children are ill we will follow the sick child policy to prevent the spread of any infection in the setting. Staff are also requested to stay at home if they are contagious.
- The 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 setting.
- Periodically each room in the setting 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 setting will ensure stocks of tissues, hand washing equipment, sterilising fluid and anti-bacterial gel are maintained at all times and increased during the winter months or when flu and cold germs are circulating.

Internal use only

This policy was adopted on	
Signed on behalf of Spice Childcare	
Date for review	