



Infection Control Policy

November 2020

Infection Control Policy

We actively prevent the spread of infection via the following measures:

- Maintaining high standards of personal hygiene and practice
- Regular washing and drying of hands
- Cleaning of toys and sports equipment after use by each group
- Cleaning any resources that have been used or shared after each use
- Cleaning of classrooms and workspaces at regular intervals throughout the day
- Cleaning of all surfaces and chairs at regular intervals throughout the day
- Cleaning toilet areas throughout the day
- Fogging of classrooms and other identified areas
- Wearing the correct PPE when carrying out cleaning duties
- Wearing the correct PPE when dealing with First Aid
- Wearing the correct PPE when dealing with someone displaying symptoms of COVID-19
- Maintaining a clean environment
- Taking appropriate action when infection occurs

Personal Care Changing Areas

There are designated changing areas throughout the school.

The student is cleaned with disposable wipes, and creams and lotions are labelled with the relevant student's name.

Appropriate PPE is worn when changing pads / pull ups.

Handwashing facilities are available in the room and soiled pads/pull ups are disposed of in a wrapped plastic bag and placed in bio-hazard waste that is emptied twice per week.

Blood and other bodily fluids

- Cuts and abrasions are covered with plasters.
- When coughing or sneezing, all staff and students are encouraged to cover their nose and mouth with a disposable tissue and dispose of the tissue after use, and to wash their hands afterwards. Encourage 'catch it, bin it, kill it'.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) are worn where there is a risk of contamination with blood or bodily fluids during an activity. Gloves are latex free and CE (*Conformité Européene*) marked. If there is a risk of splashing to the face, face masks and visors must be worn.
- Spillages of blood, faeces, saliva, vomit, nasal and eye discharges are cleaned up immediately. They are cleaned using the bio-hazard kit or a mixture of detergent and disinfectant. Paper towels or cloths are used, always wearing PPE, and they are disposed of using a double bag system tied and placed in the outdoor refuse bin.

To dispose of waste from people with symptoms of coronavirus, such as disposable cleaning cloths, tissues and PPE:

- put it in a plastic rubbish bag and tie it when full
- place the plastic bag in a second bin bag and tie it
- put it in a suitable and secure place marked for storage for 72 hours

Waste should be stored safely and securely kept away from the students. You should not put your waste in communal waste areas until the waste has been stored for at least 72 hours. Storing for 72 hours saves unnecessary waste movements and minimises the risk to waste operatives. This waste does not require a dedicated clinical waste collection in the above circumstances (*Safe working in education, childcare and children's social care settings including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE)*) Updated 16th June 2020.

In the event of infection

Preventing the spread of infection

Parents should not send their youngsters to school in the following circumstances:

- The student is showing any symptoms of COVID-19 (see 5.1)
- The student shows signs of being poorly and needing one-to-one care
- The student has untreated conjunctivitis
- The student has a high temperature/fever
- The student has untreated head lice
- The student has been vomiting and/or had diarrhoea within the last 48 hours
- The student has an infection and the minimum recommended exclusion period has not yet passed

Vulnerable students

- Students with impaired immune defense mechanisms (known as immune compromised) are more likely to acquire infections. In addition, the effect of an infection is likely to be more significant for such students. These students may have a disease that compromises their immune system or be undergoing treatment, such as chemotherapy, that has a similar effect. Parents are responsible for notifying the school if their child is vulnerable.
- If a vulnerable child is thought to have been exposed to an infectious disease, the child's parents will be informed and encouraged to seek medical advice from their doctor or specialist.

Procedures for unwell students/staff

Staff are required to know the warning signs of students becoming unwell including, but not limited to, the following:

Symptoms of COVID-19

- Continuous dry cough
- Difficulty breathing
- High temperature
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste and smell
- Chills and repeated shaking with chills

Some children may also present with:

- A fever and rash
- Red swollen eyes
- General pain

Other signs of feeling generally unwell:

- Not being themselves

- Not having a snack
- Not eating at lunchtimes
- Wanting more attention/sleep than usual
- Displaying physical signs of being unwell, e.g., watery eyes, a flushed face or clammy skin

Where a staff member identifies a student as unwell, the student will have their temperature taken and the student's parents will be informed of the situation if required.

Staff will:

- If COVID-19 is suspected, follow the Protocol for a child with suspected COVID-19
- Move the student to a quieter area of the school or the sick bay.
- Ensure there is a staff member available to accompany the student.
- Summon emergency medical help if required.
- Send the student home if necessary.

If a student is identified with vomiting and diarrhoea, the student's parents will be contacted immediately and the child will be sent home, and may only return after 48 hours have passed without symptoms.

If a staff member is suffering from vomiting and diarrhoea, they will be sent home and may not return until 48 hours have passed without symptoms.

If the clothing of the first-aider or a student becomes contaminated, the clothing is removed as soon as possible and placed in a sealed dissolvable laundry bag, washed at 60°C ready for collection the next day. The student's clothing is sent home the following day with the student.

Monitoring and review

All members of staff are required to familiarize themselves with this addendum to the infection control policy.

It will be reviewed at regular intervals throughout the academic year commencing 01.09.2020.

Reviewed 23.11.2020.