



Infection Control Policy

Purpose of Policy

This policy is designed to ensure that a safe, healthy environment is maintained at Peter Rabbit Nursery. The nursery recognises that infections can spread quickly amongst children in a childcare environment; therefore, we will endeavour to ensure that infections are controlled, and good health and hygiene practices are maintained.

Who is Responsible?

It is the responsibility of the manager to ensure that any children, parents, and members of staff who have a contagious illness are excluded from the nursery for the recommended period of time.

All members of staff have a responsibility to ensure that any children who arrive at the setting unwell; the child's parent/carer must speak to management / senior staff before a decision is made and whether the child should remain at nursery or go home.

All members of staff have a responsibility to ensure that they do not attend the session if they have an infectious illness, as this will assist Peter Rabbit Nursery to prevent the spread of any infectious illness.

How the Policy will be Implemented

Peter Rabbit Nursery aims to prevent the spread of infectious illnesses and infections by adhering to the following procedures:

Our staff should:

- 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/clean with antibacterial gel 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 after each use

- Check toilets throughout the day
- Remind children to wash their hands before eating, after visiting the toilet, playing outside
- Clean toys and equipment on a regular basis by following a cleaning rota and using antibacterial cleanser or through washing in the washing machine
- Ask parents to provide labelled individual bedding for their child that is not used by any other child and send it home at the end of each session
- Follow the sickness and illness policy when children are ill to prevent the spread of any infection in the nursery school. 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 school
- Parents will be made aware of the need for these procedures in order for them to follow these guidelines whilst in the nursery
- 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.
- Members of staff who become unwell during working hours will immediately be sent home and where possible a relief member of staff called in to ensure ratios of staff and children are maintained.

Dealing with Children who become Unwell

In accordance with setting registration guidelines children will not be admitted into the setting if they are showing signs of any ailment that could be contagious or could affect the settings ability to care for the child and the other children in attendance. Similarly, any member of staff who attends work showing signs of any ailment that could affect their ability to carry out their duties will be sent home and a replacement member of staff called in to cover the minimum child to adult ratios.

Children who become unwell during the course of the session will be made comfortable and will be cared for by a member of staff in a quiet area of the nursery until their parent or carer can collect them. The dignity of the child will remain paramount and the child will not be made to feel bad as a result of their illness, but the setting will put measures in place to ensure that the risk of the illness spreading is minimised.