



## **Infection Control Policy**

Hyde n Seek nursery has a duty of care and at all times strives to protect the health, safety and welfare of all it's service users – children, visitors, parents/carers and staff. The nursery ensures that this duty of care is maintained by having in place an infection control policy which allows staff to establish a safe and healthy environment.

### **To control the spread of infection within the nursery:**

We actively promote and encourage all the children in the formation of good hygienic practices, such as – washing their hands before and after handling foods. Blowing and wiping their own noses and disposing of hankies hygienically. Washing hands after each toilet visit. Covering mouths when coughing and sneezing. Staff use antibacterial hand sanitise following the cleaning of a child's nose.

There is a system of monitoring and recording the sterilising of all toys and equipment within the nursery environment.

Within our Health and Safety procedures, guidelines are set in relation to the care of resources to include the sterilisation and cleaning of outdoor and indoor toys.

The Staff induction training includes information on the colour coding system for cleaning equipment, such as brushes and mops.

The staff are required to wear disposable aprons and gloves at all times when changing nappies, coming into contact with other body fluids or blood and in food preparation. White gloves and aprons are used for cleaning and blue for food related tasks. Staff are aware of the nursery procedure on the correct disposal of all soiled items. A contract with a reputable company for the safe uplift and disposal of all soiled items is in place.

### **To promote awareness of nursery practices, we:**

Carry out training with all new staff/students at induction on nursery practices and procedures regarding the implementing of the infection control policy.

Display visual reminders around the nursery to encourage an understanding for all staff and service users.

Provide for all staff, updated training in good hygiene practices.

We liaise with other outside agencies when necessary to advise upon and maintain the nursery infection control policy.

### **To reduce the risk of contamination and cross-contamination.**

All nursery staff are required to participate in food hygiene training to ensure that all working practices as specified by Environmental Health are being met.

The nursery have implemented the HACCP system 'Cooksafe' which is required by law to be in place in all food establishments.

Good working practices are clearly explained at the staff induction training.

Monitoring takes place on a regular basis.

The nursery building has separate adult and child toileting facilities. The baby changing provision will accommodate wheelchair users.

### **To prevent the persistence and further spread of infection, the nursery:**

Staff are vigilant for signs of infection which are persisting or recurring.

Parents are asked to keep their child at home if they have an infection and to inform the nursery as to the nature of the infection.

Staff and children are excluded from attendance at nursery for at least 48 hours from last attack of sickness or Diarrhoea.

A Catalogue of Illnesses, diseases and their exclusions for reference by both staff and service users is displayed in the nursery.

Notices are displayed for all service users regarding any infectious diseases in the nursery. Updates will be included in the nursery newsletter.

Parents who have children with additional medical conditions will be informed directly due to the severity it may cause to the child.

All parents/carers are encouraged to work with the nursery staff in respect of the illnesses as detailed in the catalogue of illnesses, diseases and their exclusions.

We have detailed a brief summary of the roles of all individuals who have a responsibility to ensure the continued health and well-being of all service users and staff.

### **Children**

Due to the lack of prior contact with other children in group settings children are often prone to infection when they first start nursery. For this reason the nursery staff ask all parents/carers to refer to the Catalogue of Illnesses, diseases and their exclusions displayed within the parents area, particularly when their child becomes unwell or has been diagnosed with an Infection. Children who present themselves as unwell *i.e* those with a temperature, rash etc should be excluded from nursery until a diagnosis is made and if required the relevant exclusion period is served.

Some childhood conditions such as hand, foot and mouth disease and conjunctivitis have no exclusion period. These illnesses however are highly contagious in nursery children and we would ask parents to work alongside the staff in helping to control the spread of these infections.

A detailed list of illnesses and diseases along with the nurseries period of exclusion is available for all parents to access within the parent's information area.

### **Staff & Management**

Members of staff will be made aware of the nursery procedures for the control of infection at their induction training.

The management team will be responsible for ensuring that these procedures and practices are implemented within the nursery day.

The management team are responsible for the induction training of new members of staff. They will ensure that the catalogue of Illnesses, diseases and their relevant exclusion periods is updated on a regular basis. We will always notify all service users should an infectious disease be confirmed. Information about confirmed diseases will be conveyed to all service users by a variety of methods depending on the urgency of the situation e.g. telephone call/letter or verbally by members of staff. Members of the Management Team will strive to contact all relevant service users and others who may have been in contact with someone who has since been confirmed as having a communicable disease. This would include pregnant, elderly, visitors and anyone who has become unwell and has not returned to the nursery after confirmation of the disease.