**Trinity Tots Nursery**

**Infection Control Policy**

HSCS: 3.21, 4.11, 5.17

At Trinity Tots Nursery we promote the good health of all children attending through maintaining high hygiene standards and reducing the chances of infection being spread.

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.

We follow the guidance on Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings (Day Care and Childminding Settings) and the exclusion criteria from the ‘Childcare and Childminding Settings’ guidance on exclusion times for specific illnesses, e.g. sickness and diarrhoea, measles and chicken pox to protect other children in the nursery. This information is available at

https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/media/248128/child-care-setting-infection-control-may-2018.pdf

**Procedures**

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 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 before and after each use

Toilets are cleaned by the cleaner who is responsible for ensuring the toilets are disinfected daily and the correct colour coded cloths and mops are used when doing so.

Regarding urine spillage:

* The area must be cleaned appropriately and dried using disposable paper towels
* All paper towels and other protective clothing must then be put into a sealed bag and disregarded appropriately to prevent spread of infection
* All cleaning products must be kept out of reach of children

Regarding blood, feces etc.:

* The area should be cleaned promptly using the recommended disinfectant and where possible disposable paper towels
* Whatever is used, protective clothing, paper towels, cloths etc. should be disposed of in a double bin bag and deposited in the bin
* All cleaning products must be kept out of reach of children

Staff and children wash their hands frequently throughout the day. Hands should be washed in all the following circumstances

* whenever visibly dirty
* after touching any potentially contaminated surface (e.g. drains, cleaning cloths)
* after using the toilet
* after sneezing or blowing your nose
* after touching animals
* after contact with bodily fluids or blood
* before and after handling food
* before touching bottles and teats
* before and after changing nappies or handling potties
* before and after dressing a wound
* before and after giving or applying medication

We encourage the children and staff to follow a strict procedure whilst washing hands which consists of running hands under warm water, and rubbing hands vigorously together remembering in between fingers and under nails.

Clean all toys, equipment and resources on a regular basis by following a comprehensive cleaning rota and using antibacterial cleanser or through washing in the washing machine. All toys to be cleaned if there is an outbreak of illness.

Wash or clean all equipment used by babies and toddlers as and when needed including when the children have placed it in their mouth

Store toothbrushes hygienically to prevent cross-contamination

Store dummies in individual hygienic dummy boxes labelled with the child’s name to prevent cross-contamination with other children

Bottles and teats are washed thoroughly using detergent then they are rinsed with clear water and placed into the steriliser.

Immediately clean and sterilise any dummy or bottle that falls on the floor or is picked up by another child

Provide labelled individual bedding for children that is not used by any other child and wash this at least once a week

Where applicable wear specific indoor shoes or slippers whilst inside the rooms and make sure that children wear them as well

Follow the sickness and illness policy when children are ill to prevent the spread of any infection in the nursery. 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

Parents will be made aware of the need for these procedures in order for them to follow them 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. Antibacterial handwash is available in the front foyer.

**Covid-19 Addendum**

We will continue to implement our infection control policy, through maintaining high hygiene standards and reducing the chances of infection being spread.

 In addition to this we will:

* Implement robust handwashing routines with extra hand sanitising stations, where possible. Hands will be washed thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap, and dried thoroughly, or use alcohol hand rub/sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered
* Clean hands on arrival at the setting, before and after eating, and after sneezing or coughing
* Encourage staff and, where age/stage appropriate, children not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose (consider face washing with children where appropriate)
* Ensure good respiratory hygiene - use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste; promoting the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach for all staff and children
* Ensure that help is available for children who have trouble cleaning their hands independently
* Encourage young children to learn and practise these habits through games, songs and repetition
* Ensure that lidded bins for tissues are emptied throughout the day
* Clean frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents and bleach (including surfaces that children are touching, such as toys, books, tables, chairs, doors, sinks; wiping down toilets after each use, light switches)
* Where possible, ensure spaces are well ventilated using natural ventilation (opening windows)
* Keep doors open, where safe to do so (bearing in mind fire safety and safeguarding), to limit use of door handles and aid ventilation
* Take steps to ensure symptomatic individuals do not attend nursery
* Minimise contact and mixing as much as possible (such as by staggered break/meal times, keeping staff and children in smaller consistent groups, ensuring that the same staff are assigned to each group as far as possible and keep children in the same rooms/areas/outdoor area throughout the day)
* Physical distancing is neither desirable nor possible to implement between young children but adults in the setting MUST physically distance.
* All unnecessary soft furnishings are to be removed.
* Ensure play equipment is appropriately cleaned between groups of children using it and that multiple groups do not use it simultaneously.

Routine testing of children’s temperatures will not take place as per government guidelines. We remind parents and staff to follow national advice on Covid-19 symptoms. We ask all staff and parents to follow government advice below if anyone in their household displays any symptoms.

https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-phase-2-staying-safe-and-protecting-others/

Anyone showing signs of coronavirus are advised to not leave their home for at least 10 days and anyone they live with will not leave their home for 14 days. This will be applied for any child, staff or family members accessing nursery.

Staff and children in all early years’ settings will be eligible for coronavirus testing if they become ill with coronavirus symptoms, as will members of their households. A negative test will enable children to get back to childcare setting, and their parents to get back to work. A positive test will ensure rapid action to protect their peers and staff in their setting.

We will work with staff and families where testing is required to arrange for this as soon as possible and ensure isolation periods are followed for all staff and children effected.

If a child has a high temperature whilst at nursery, parents will be called immediately. The child will be cared for in the front foyer and the staff member will, in these cases, wear a face covering to minimise the spread of infection.

In the event of an infection outbreak the nursery will, where appropriate, undertake a deep clean to ensure the spread of infection is contained

We will follow Government health guidance, as well as seeking legal advice and information from our insurers, on any national outbreak of a virus/ pandemic and keep parents informed of any course of action. Each specific circumstance will differ and to ensure we take the most appropriate action, we will treat each case on an individual basis

In addition, where contagious outbreaks occur, we will adopt Government guidance for all visitors to minimise the risk of further spreading of the infection

Travelling to nursery – Parents, children and young people are encouraged to travel by car, walk or cycle where possible and avoid public transport at peak times

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| **This policy was adopted on** | **Signed on behalf of the nursery** | **Date for review** |
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