



Infection Control

EYFS: 3.44, 3.45, 3.46

Here at The Patch we promote the good health of all children attending through maintaining high hygiene standards and reducing the chances of infection being spread. We follow the Health protection in schools and other childcare facilities guidance which sets out when and how long children need to be excluded from settings, when treatment/medication is required and where to get further advice from.

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.

COVID 19 has brought about many changes to our practices especially in regard to Infection control. We have adopted a 'clean as you go' approach with staff. Soft furnishing have been removed from all rooms.

We follow the guidance below to prevent a virus or infection from moving around the nursery. Our staff:

- Social bubbles of staff and children have been created.
- Encourage all children to use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch germs at all times
- Ensure all tissues are disposed of in a hygienic way and all children and staff wash their hands once the tissue is disposed of in a lidded pedal bin
- 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. All paper towels and tissues need to go into a yellow bag at the end of the day
- Clean and sterilise changing mats before and after each use and leaves clear 10 minutes in between each nappy change.
- Clean toilets including flush handle with anti bacterial spray after every use and the bathroom MUST have full clean at the end of each day.
- Children to wash their hands at least every hour and especially before eating, after visiting the toilet, playing outside or being in contact with any animal and explain the reasons for this. An outdoor sink as been added and taps have been changed for better hygiene

- Clean all toys, equipment and resources by following the comprehensive cleaning rota and 'clean as you go' approach. and using antibacterial cleanser, Milton or through washing in the washing machine.
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- 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 dummies in individual hygienic dummy boxes labelled with the child's name to prevent cross-contamination with other children
- Immediately clean and sterilise (where necessary) any dummy or bottle that falls on the floor or is picked up by another child
- Provide bedding for children that is not used by any other child and washed daily.
- 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. Government guidance is always to be adhered to regard to coronavirus symptoms and self isolation

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 these guidelines 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. PPE and sterilising fluid are maintained at all times.

Exclusion guidelines for the most common childhood illnesses are set out below

INFECTION	INFECTIOUS PERIOD	The Patch Day Nursery EXCLUSION PERIOD
Conjunctivitis	None	After 24 hours on treatment or after an improvement has been seen
Sickness & Diarrhoea	While there is diarrhoea. The risk of spread is reduced once stools are well formed	Until well and the diarrhoea has stopped for a minimum of 48 hours
Head Lice	As long as lice and live eggs are present	Until treatment is given and head is clear
Chicken Pox	5 days after the appearance of the rash	Until all spots have crusted over, consideration must be given to child's appearance.
Hand, Foot & Mouth	none	Exclude until well
Impetigo	Until lesions have healed or 48 hours after antibiotic treatment has started	Treatment has started and skin is improving. All sores

		on exposed surfaces must be covered with a dressing
Throat Infection	2 – 5 days	Children can return to nursery 48 hours after starting treatment
Ear Infection	2 – 5 days	Exclude until well

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
September 2019	E Pate	September 2020