

## **INFECTIOUS CONTROL POLICY**

### **Policy Statement:**

It is the priority of Baron's Playschool to protect all children attending our service and all persons working in our service from the transmission of infections. The health and well-being of all children, staff and visitors to our service is paramount and our aim is to prevent and manage any infection which may be present in the service.

Keeping hands clean are an important method in controlling the passing of infections, especially those that cause diarrhoea and vomiting.

We ensure the following:

- Washing of the hands after the toilet.
- Washing hands after all come in from the outdoor area.
- Washing hands before and after handling food.
- Staff will be aware at all times that their personal and professional hygiene practises and routines they are setting an example - modelling - for the children.
- All cuts and sores must be covered with suitable dressing.
- Dealing with spills, good quality gloves will always be used when cleaning up spills of the body fluids (vomit, blood, urine, excrement).

Management of spillages of blood or other bodily fluids.

General points:

- Blood and bodily fluid spillages should be dealt with immediately.
- Children should be kept away from the area until the spillage has been cleaned and disinfected.
- Spills should be removed using disposable paper towels or kitchen roll before the area is cleaned and disinfected.
- A chlorine disinfectant is recommended in these cases.
- The area should be well ventilated if a chlorine-based disinfectant is used.
- Supply of gloves, paper towels and plastic waste bags should be easily available to manage spills.
- If non-disposable cloths and mop heads are used to clean after spillage is removed, they will be put in the wash directly.

Spillages of Bodily Fluids (urine, faeces or vomit)

- Put on disposable gloves and aprons.
- Use absorbent disposable paper towels or kitchen roll to soak up spillage.
- Clean the area after using warm water and an all-purpose neutral detergent with a disposable cloth.
- Apply a chlorine-based disinfectant to the effected surface.
- Dry the surface thoroughly using disposable paper towel.
- Dispose of soiled/sodden paper towels, gloves, aprons in a waste bag and put outside in our bin.
- Wash hands immediately.
- Change soiled clothes immediately.

### Blood Spillages.

- Put on disposal plastic apron and gloves.
- Use absorbent disposal paper towels or kitchen roll to soak up spillage.
- Apply chlorine-based disinfectant to affected surface.
- Please leave this for at least 2 minutes.
- Wash the area thoroughly with warm water and a general all-purpose cleaner using gloves and paper towels.
- Dispose of every material used i.e. gloves towel etc and put them in a bag in the outdoor bin.
- Wash hand thoroughly.
- Change clothing that is soiled.

### Coughing and sneezing.

- Staff must practise the proper hygiene while sneezing and coughing.
- Reaffirm with the children by demonstrating the right way to sneeze - sneeze into your elbow, dispose of tissues and wash hands after.
- Staff must tell the children to cover their mouths when coughing.
- After this procedure they must wash their hands, staff will use the hand sanitizer.

### Cleaning

- Appropriate daily and weekly records will be signed and kept.
- Mops for general washing will be rinsed out in water with disinfectant using rubber gloves after each use. Anytime the mop appears dirty it will be put in for the wash.
- All toilets, walls and wash basins will be cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis throughout the day. No child is allowed bring any toys into the bathroom or nappy changing area.
- The Playschool has a daily and weekly cleaning routine that everyone knows and adheres to.
- Washing up will be done in the kitchen using warm soapy water and the dishwasher.
- All cleaning cloths mops etc, will be changed regularly throughout the week.
- Any leftover food will be disposed of accordingly.
- Waste disposal will be carried out at the end of each day/session.

For a list of common infection disease, their symptoms and exclusion period please refer to the Management of Infectious Diseases in Childcare Facility. [www.hpsc.ie/A-Z/LifeStages/Childcare/](http://www.hpsc.ie/A-Z/LifeStages/Childcare/)

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