



## Hygiene

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**Our Nursery recognises the importance of maintaining the highest possible standards of hygiene in and around the premises so as to minimise the risks posed to children, staff and other visitors.**

The Manager and staff are committed to taking all practicable steps to prevent and control the spread of infections, and to uphold high standards of personal hygiene in order to minimise the risk of catching or spreading infections.

### **Personal Hygiene**

In all circumstances, staff will adhere to the following examples of good personal hygiene:

- Washing hands before and after handling food or drink.
- Helping children to use the toilet and washing hands afterwards.
- Encouraging children to adopt these same routines.
- Covering cuts and abrasions while at the premises.
- Keeping long hair tied back when preparing food.
- Taking any other steps that are likely to minimise the spread of infections.

### **Hygiene in the Nursery**

The Manager and all staff will be vigilant to any potential threats to good hygiene in the Nursery. To this end, a generally clean and tidy environment will be maintained at all times. More specifically, the Manager will ensure that toilets are cleaned daily and that there is always an adequate supply of soap and hand drying facilities for both staff and children.

### **Dealing with Spillages**

Spillages of substances likely to result in the spread of infections will be dealt with rapidly and carefully. Blood, vomit, urine and faeces will be cleaned up immediately and disposed of safely and hygienically. Staff will wear disposable plastic gloves and an apron while using bleach or disinfectant solution, and wash themselves thoroughly afterwards. Children will be kept well clear while such substances are being dealt with.

### **First Aid and Hygiene**

Further to the provisions set out in the Health, Illness and Emergency policy, the designated First Aider will be mindful of the need to observe the highest standards of personal hygiene when administering any treatment to children. As such, they will

wash their hands thoroughly both before and after giving first aid, and ensure that any cuts, wounds or skin damage are covered by plasters or disposable gloves.

### **Kitchen Hygiene**

All areas where food and drink are stored, prepared and eaten are prone to the spread of infections. Therefore, staff must be particularly careful to observe high standards of hygiene in such instances. To this end the following steps will be taken:

- Waste will be disposed of safely and all bins will be kept covered.
- Food storage facilities will be regularly and thoroughly cleaned.
- Kitchen equipment will be thoroughly cleaned after every use.
- Staff and children will wash and dry their hands thoroughly before coming into contact with food.
- If cooking is done as an activity, all surfaces and equipment involved will be thoroughly cleaned before and after the session.

Additionally, staff will be aware of the provisions set out in the Food and Drink policy when handling, preparing, cooking and serving food or drink at the Nursery.

### **Animals**

Animals are occasionally brought into the Nursery, as part of the programme of activities, and on liaison with the Manager. Children are strongly discouraged from bringing pets or other animals to the Nursery premises and parents/carers are asked to help enforce this. Animals are not allowed on the premises at other times, and the Manager will be informed immediately if this occurs.

### **Coronavirus**

With the situation on Coronavirus ever changing we would like to reassure you that we continue to carefully monitor the risks associated with the outbreak of the virus to ensure you all remain safe.

As we continue with business as usual with the current changes in routine, Please remember to follow some simple rules to assist in preventing any spread of germs:

#### **Do:**

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze.
- Put used tissues in the bin immediately.
- Wash hands with soap and water often and use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- Keep to the 1m+ government recommendations.
- Try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

#### **Don't:**

- Touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.

Signed on behalf of the Management Committee:

..... Chairperson

This policy was updated by the Manager and staff and will be updated annually.  
Next due to be updated: September 2021.

“Horspath Nursery is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, families and staff at all times.”