

Cherrytree Nursery School Ltd

Hygiene / Infection control policy

Fruit and vegetables for snack, and food for baking, are bought from local supermarkets and stored in the kitchen in a cool and dry place, or in the fridge as required. Milk is delivered daily and stored in the fridge until used. Stored food is regularly checked to ensure it is in date. A record is kept of the daily snacks provided. Snack foods are prepared on hygienic chopping boards which are washed immediately after use.

Before serving snack or baking, allergies are checked for each child, to ensure they are not put at risk. A list of children with allergies or food preferences is kept in the kitchen, office and each class.

The fridge and freezer temperatures are checked daily by use of thermometers. Used dishcloths and tea towels are boil washed in a washing machine. Spillages on counters or floors are cleared up immediately using appropriate cleaning fluids and floor cloths, which are also boil-washed.

Children's packed lunches are stored on a unit by the front door (at Newtown branch) or on shelves in each class (at Kingsnorth Road branch). New parents are advised verbally and on our lunchbox advice sheet, given at the initial induction interview, that we have no refrigeration facilities for lunchboxes. Parents are asked to add a chilled ice pack to their child's lunchbox if they feel it is necessary. If a child forgets their lunchbox, the parents are contacted and asked to bring one in.

In the classrooms, floors are mopped at least twice weekly as routine and cleaned/mopped extra as required. Tables are disinfected before use for snack or lunch. They are also cleaned after messy play such as playdough, foam etc.

Nappies are changed on a hygienic mat which is disinfected after each change. Nappies are placed in a designated nappy bin which is emptied daily by staff into an external bin for collection by a hygiene company. Potties are emptied immediately into a toilet bowl, rinsed and cleaned with a bleach solution. Staff wear disposable gloves and aprons when dealing with changing of children's clothes and toileting accidents. Soiled clothes are placed in a plastic bag and tied, ready for parents to take home for washing. Gloves and aprons are disposed of after each change and staff clean hands thoroughly between changes.

Toys and equipment are cleaned regularly, and during an outbreak of infectious illness we consider suspending play with water, sand and playdough, if appropriate.

Handwashing by staff and children is carried out with warm water and soap after all toilet sessions and before eating, drinking or food handling. Children are supervised to ensure they are washing hands efficiently and use disposable paper towels to dry hands. Anti-bacterial soap is available in the kitchen for staff to use before and after food preparation.

If a child at Nursery develops sickness or diarrhoea, he/she is removed from the group and parents contacted immediately to collect their child. Disinfectant/bleach and disposable gloves are used when cleaning up after someone who has been ill. The toilet seat, flush handle and tap on hand basin is cleaned with a diluted bleach solution after use by the infected person. A child with sickness/diarrhoea is asked not to attend Nursery until 48 hours after symptoms have ceased, or possibly for a longer period on the advice of the Consultant in Communicable Disease Control.

Staff who are ill or have symptoms of diarrhoea and vomiting are asked not to return to work until 48 hours after recovery from symptoms.

General cleaning of all rooms including the kitchen and toilet area is carried out daily by our cleaners, and additionally whenever required during the school day.