

18: Hygiene

Our Club 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 infectious germs, 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.
- Washing hands after using the toilet.
- Encouraging children to adopt these same routines.
- Covering cuts and abrasions while at the premises.
- Keeping long hair tied back.
- Taking any other steps that are likely to minimise the spread of infections.

Hygiene in the Club

The manager and all staff will be vigilant to any potential threats to good hygiene in the Club. To this end, a 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 toilet roll, soap and hand drying facilities for both staff and children. Staff will also be vigilant to any sharp objects, such as glass, which may be on the premises.

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.
- Food used by dates will be checked before use and will only be used if still in date. Out of date food items will be disposed of safely.
- 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 Club.

Animals

No animal will be allowed on the premises without the prior knowledge and permission of the manager. Children are strongly discouraged from bringing their pets or other animals to the setting, and parents/carers are asked to help enforce this rule. If for any reason an animal does come onto the premises, the manager will be immediately informed.

COVID-19/ Coronavirus

Due to the infectious nature of the Coronavirus, the club will continue to take reasonable steps to protect people from harm, this includes the children, parents and club staff. The areas used by the club will be kept clean and frequent hand washing will be encouraged, together with the use of hand sanitiser.

The children will be actively encouraged to wash their hands more frequently and in particular, on arrival and departure from the club as well as each and every time they change area.

Areas used by the club will be sanitised more frequently and each time there is a change in usage, this particularly applies to frequent touch points such as door handles, light switches etc.