



Infection Control

At St Bernards we promote the good health and welfare of all children attending our setting, this is maintained through high hygiene standards and reducing the chances of infection being spread.

Viruses and infections can be easily passed from person to person by breathing in air containing the virus, which is produced when an infection person talks, coughs or sneezes. It can also spread through hand/face contact after touching a person or surface contaminated with viruses.

We follow the guidelines below to prevent a virus or infection from moving around the nursery, staff will:

- Encourage all children to use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch the germs
- Ensure all tissues are disposed of in a hygienic way, hands then need to be washed after the disposal of the tissues.
- Develop children's understanding of personal hygiene and the need for this to happen to stay healthy
- Protective clothing is worn whilst changing nappies, toileting children and dealing with any bodily fluids. All clothing needs to be disposed of appropriately and hands to be cleaned immediately.
- Clean and sterilise potties and changing mats before and after use.
- Clean toilets at least daily and check throughout the day
- Remind children to wash hands before meals, after toileting, playing outdoors and contact with nursery pets.
- Clean all toys, equipment and resources on a regular basis.
- Babies and toddlers equipment to be cleaned frequently especially when children have placed items in their mouths.
- Store dummies in hygienic containers labelled with the child's name to prevent cross contamination, dummies to be cleaned if fall onto the floor or picked up by other children.
- Store toothbrushes hygienically to prevent cross contamination
- Individual bedding to be provided and washed weekly.
- Follow the sickness and illness policy when children are ill and may spread infection. This applies to members of the team also.

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 nursery
- Parents will be made aware of the necessity for these procedures, in order for them to comprehend and follow these guidelines whilst they are associated with St Bernard's.
- Periodically each room in the nursery will be deep cleaned including rugs and soft furnishings to ensure the spread of infection is limited.
- Nursery management will ensure that there are plenty of stock relating to tissues, hand washing equipment, cleaning materials, PPE and sterilising fluids available at all times.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the setting	Date of review
July 2015		September 2023