

**20. Infection Control Policy**

At Guildford Montessori Nursery School, All Saints we promote the good health of all children attending through maintaining high hygiene standards and reducing the chances of infection being spread. We follow the Health protection in schools and other childcare facilities guidance which sets out when and how long children need to be excluded from settings, when treatment/medication is required and where to get further advice from.

Viruses and infections can be easily passed from person to person by breathing in air containing the virus which is produced when an infected 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 guidance below to prevent a virus or infection from moving around the nursery school. Our staff:

* Encourage all children to use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch germs
* Ensure all tissues are disposed of in a hygienic way and all children and staff wash/clean with antibacterial gel their hands once the tissue is disposed of
* Develop children’s understanding of the above and the need for good hygiene procedures in helping them to stay healthy
* Wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when changing nappies, toileting children and dealing with any other bodily fluids. Staff are requested to dispose of these in the appropriate manner and wash hands immediately
* Clean and disinfect all potties and changing mats after each use and let them air dry or dry them with disposable paper towel before the next use
* Check toilets throughout the day
* Remind children to wash their hands before/after eating, after visiting the toilet, playing outside
* Clean toys and equipment on a regular basis by following a cleaning rota and using antibacterial cleanser or through washing in the washing machine
* Ask parents to provide labelled individual bedding for their child that is not used by any other child and send it home at the end of each session
* Follow the sickness and illness policy when children are ill to prevent the spread of any infection in the nursery school. Staff are also requested to stay at home if they are contagious.

In addition:

* The nursery school 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 rest of the nursery school
* Parents will be made aware of the need for these procedures in order for them to follow these guidelines whilst in the nursery
* The nursery school will ensure stocks of tissues, hand washing equipment, cleaning materials and sterilising fluid are maintained at all times and increased during the winter months or when flu and cold germs are circulating.

Guildford Montessori Nursery School, All saints has separate Covid-19 Procedures and System of Control.

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| **This policy was adopted on** | **Signed on behalf of the nursery** | **Date for review** |
| *28th February 2023* | *E.Buchholdt* | *March 2024* |