

Infection Prevention

Health and Social Care Standards:

3.14 I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled, are able to reflect on their practice and follow their professional and organisational codes.

4.11 I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice.

4.27 I experience high quality care and support because people have the necessary information and resources.

As an Early Learning and Childcare setting, Stramash recognises its 'duty of care' and requirement to provide a safe environment for the children in its care. Stramash will ensure that all staff are fully trained to enable its settings to follow the national guidance ***Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings*** (2018)¹, recommended as best practice by the Care Inspectorate.

Stramash promotes the good health of all children attending through maintaining high hygiene standards and reducing the chances of infection being spread through these principles:

- Use of thorough, robust and regular cleaning routines that use safe and effective cleaning materials
 - For resources, linen/material and indoor areas of the nursery
- Use of thorough and robust handwashing procedures and set ups for staff and children to use:
 - Before eating
 - Before preparing food
 - After using the toilet
 - After handling animals
 - After handling rubbish
 - After sneezing/coughing into hands/tissue
 - After a change (nappy/clothes)
 - After particularly messy play
- Instructional guidance about how to properly wash hands will be given to children and made available around the setting
- Staff will encourage all children to use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch germs
- Staff will ensure all tissues are disposed of in a hygienic way and all children and staff wash their hands once the tissue is disposed of
- Food preparation and food handling will only be carried out by staff in receipt

¹ [Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings \(2018\) Health Protection Scotland](#)

- of the appropriate food hygiene certificate
- Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is available when changing nappies/clothing, toileting children and dealing with any other bodily fluids
 - Staff are requested to dispose of these in the appropriate manner and wash hands immediately.
- Personal Protective Equipment should also be worn when cleaning areas that have contained bodily fluids such as toilets, changing areas etc
- Clean and sterilise all potties and changing mats before and after each use
- Clean toilets at least daily and check them throughout the day
- All staff will follow the Exclusion for Illness policy when children are ill to prevent the spread of any infection in the nursery
 - Staff are also requested to stay at home if they are contagious.

Early warning signs of infection

Staff will inform the Senior Practitioner or Team Leader if a child has any of the following symptoms:

- appears unwell (feels hot or looks flushed);
- complains of feeling ill for example cough, sore throat, runny nose, muscle aches and headaches;
- diarrhoea and/or vomiting;
- blood in their faeces;
- or unexplained rash.

The child should be kept apart from other children and their parent/carer will be asked to collect them as soon as possible. On collection the parent should be encouraged to consult their GP if the child's symptoms persist. If more than one child within the setting displays these symptoms then advice will be sought from the local NHS Health Protection Team (HPT).

Outbreaks of infection in childcare settings

If there is an outbreak of infection at any Stramash site, Team Leaders will ensure that standard infection control procedures are in force at all times. Staff will work to these strict protocols for hygiene and infection prevention. Appendix 5 of the Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings (2018) guidance will be followed to ensure that all necessary procedures are being implemented and will include a deep clean of all affected areas of the nursery.

The local Health Protection Team will be informed when there is an outbreak of infection and further guidance and support sought from them.

Team Leaders will also inform the Care Inspectorate of the outbreak.