



Kilcreggan Early Learning and Childcare Centre



# Infection Control Policy



## UNCRC:

**Article 24** I have the right to good quality health care, to clean water and good food

## Rationale

Kilcreggan ELCC has a duty to protect the health, safety and welfare of all users and employees as well as a duty of care. In addition to this the prevention and control of infection is essential in helping to establish a safe and secure environment in which children can learn and develop through play.

We will ensure that all staff are fully trained to enable the setting to meet these requirements and follow the national guidance Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings (Health Protection Scotland, September 2015), recommended as best practice by the Care Inspectorate.

## Aims:

- Minimise the sources of contamination
- Control the spread of infection
- Raise awareness of hygiene procedures
- Prevent cross-contamination
- Prevent the persistence and further spread of infection

## Procedures:

As a staff we will:

- Adhere to the requirements of the Food Safety Act, local and national guidance
- Store food which requires refrigeration, covered and dated within a refrigerator, at a temperature of 5 degrees C or below

*Kilcreggan Primary ELCC*

*Updated Aug 2023*



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- Wash hands before and after handling food
- Clean and disinfect designated food storage and preparation areas
  
- Access training in food handling and update as required
- Maintain and promote written procedures for hand washing
- Encourage children to wash their hands, in clean water, as a matter of routine after using the toilet and before snacks and meals
- Check that equipment is clean, particularly where children may have put it in their mouths
- Cover all cuts and open sores
- Wear protective clothing when dealing with accidents eg: gloves and apron
- Ensure a protocol is in place and followed regarding contact with blood and bodily fluids and the safe disposal of waste material
- Inform all attending adults of the existing policy and procedures
- Ensure that student induction includes this information
- Provide visual instructions where possible for ease of understanding
- Ensure that adults and children use separate toilet facilities where possible
- Ensure that dedicated sinks and other areas are clearly marked
- Display the Public Health Notice with information on the Exclusion Periods of Communicable Diseases
- Be vigilant as to signs of infection persisting or recurring
- Remind parents/carers of exclusion periods if a sick child is brought to the centre
- Update information as received from local and national sources
- Keep accurate paperwork and records

### **Food and kitchen hygiene**

We recognise that the responsibility for food safety lies with the individual setting will be followed at all times in the preparation of food. In line with good practice outlined in *Setting the Table: Nutritional guidance and food standards for early years*

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childcare providers in Scotland (NHS Health, Scotland, 2015). We will have at least one member of staff who has a basic food hygiene certificate that is up to date.

### **Early warning signs of infection**

Staff will inform the ELC manager/Head Teacher 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 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.

### **Outbreaks of infection in childcare settings**

We will ensure that standard infection control procedures are in force at all times. As required by law, we will inform the Care Inspectorate of any outbreak. The procedures to be followed in the case of an outbreak will be rehearsed and tested annually to ensure all staff know what to do.

### **National Care Standards**

- 5.2 I can easily access a toilet from the rooms I use and can use this when I need to.
- 5.4 If I require intimate personal care, there is a suitable area for this, including a sink if needed
- 5.17 If I am an adult living in a care home, I can nominate relatives/friends (and substitutes), who will be supported by the care home to be directly involved in providing my day-to-day care and support if that is what I want
- 5.19 My environment is secure and safe

### **Monitoring and Review**

It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher along with the staff to monitor, evaluate and review the above arrangements and to adjust them according to need.