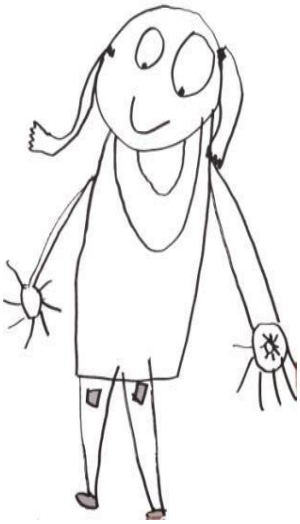
Greenbank Pre School

Infection Prevention and Control Policy



Greenbank Pre School
Edinburgh Greenbank Parish Church of Scotland
Braidburn Terrace
Edinburgh EH10 6ES

SPPA Registration No: 0923
Charity No SCO11325

Infection Prevention and Control Policy

(Summary of key points in Health Protection Scotland Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare settings 2011 and SPPA infection control policy)

Young children under the age of six are often susceptible to infectious diseases because their immunity may not be fully developed. Their close contact in care and play situations, coupled with their inexperience in practising good hygiene, makes it easy for germs to spread.

The mainstay of infection control in pre-school groups is the implementation of basic precautions outlined in this policy, underpinned by a common sense understanding of how germs are transmitted.

Policy Statement

COVID19- THIS POLICY SHOULD BE READ ALONGSIDE THE COVID19 RISK ASSESSMENTS FOR GREENBANK PRESCHOOL'

Management committee and/or staff members will report any concerns about illness, outbreaks or incidents of infection to the Health Protection Team, NHS Lothian Tel: 0131 465 5420 (465 5422 out of hours), and the Care Inspectorate Tel: 0345 600 9527

Children or adults suffering from an infectious disease will be excluded from the group for a period as advised by Health Protection Scotland guidance.

The group will provide a healthy and hygienic environment for children and will endeavour to minimize the risk of infection by endorsing basic hygiene procedures.

If a child becomes unwell during the session they will be taken to a quiet area away from others, monitored and the child's parent/carer will be notified and asked to collect the child.

All cases of infections are recorded in the accident/incident record book along with the action taken (e.g. exclusion/informing other parents). This is kept in the filing cabinet in the office. The types of suspected infections reported to other parents will be measles, chicken pox, mumps, scabies, meningitis, and whooping cough. The anonymity of children and staff involved will be maintained.

Equipment within the playroom is cleaned regularly and home made playdough and sand will be changed at regular intervals.

Staff and parent helpers will be made aware of, and be expected to adhere to the following procedures and guidelines:

Procedures- COVID-19

- Regular handwashing for staff and children for 20 seconds each time
- Sanitizing of hands if unable to wash
- Twice daily disinfecting of all communal areas, table tops, surfaces
- Distancing of at least 1 metre when near family members not in pre school bubble
- Wearing face masks when distancing is compromised
- Wearing full PPE when changing a nappy or handling faeces, blood or other body fluids
- Responding rapidly if a child or staff member presents a continuous cough, high temperature, loss of taste or smell- isolation of person, contacting family member to collect person immediately, advise a prompt PCR test to confirm a positive case, use 'Warn and Inform' to alert all families of a positive case.

FOR ALL UP TO DATE INFORMATION ON COVID-19 PLEASE FOLLOW LINK BELOW

https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-learning-and-childcare-services/

Procedures- general

Hand Washing

See Health Protection Scotland Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare settings 2018

Illness

On occasions there may be instances when children should be excluded from a pre-school setting, both in terms of the child's personal well-being as well as that of staff, parent helpers and other children.

Children or adults **will not** be permitted to attend the pre-school group if suffering from possible infectious disease – See Exclusion Criteria for Childcare and Childminding Settings: Recommended time to be kept away from daycare and childminding. Local NHS Board and Health protection Teams (HPTs) will also advise on exclusion criteria.

If a child contracts an infectious illness the group should be informed as soon as possible to enable precautions regarding cross infection to be taken.

To prevent cross contamination and spread of infections in the group the following practice will be adhered to:

- Disposable powder-free gloves will be worn when changing nappies and dealing with toilet accidents. Hands will be washed after removing disposable gloves.
- Any accidents will be cleaned immediately using appropriate cleaners and disinfectants.
- Soiled clothing will be placed in a sealed polythene bag and given to the child's parent/carer to wash.

Food handling and Storage

All staff are aware of current food hygiene advice and all attend training in this area every 3 years. Certificates of training are kept in the food folder in the kitchen.

It is essential for food safety to have systems and procedures in place within the kitchen to prevent cross contamination between raw and cooked foods, and to ensure that foods are cooked or reheated thoroughly and stored at the correct temperature.

Hands are thoroughly washed prior to handling or serving food and a reminder regarding this is in the form of a notice in the kitchen area.

A fridge thermometer is in place and checked and recorded daily by parents as part of their snack duty.

Further guidance on other procedures is displayed in the kitchen area.

All re-useable cups and dishes will be washed with antibacterial detergent according to food hygiene regulations.

In addition, raw eggs should not be used in uncooked dishes, and cake mix etc should not be eaten. Egg shells will be disposed of safely in the compost bin.

Cleaning and Disinfection in the Environment

Good housekeeping including vacuuming (avoid sweeping), damp dusting and washing is essential in the prevention of the spread of infection. Standard household general purpose detergent is usually sufficient for cleaning most surfaces, which are cleaned twice daily, after each session

Disinfectants may be required: during an outbreak of gastroenteritis
dealing with blood or blood-stained spillages

Rubber gloves and a plastic apron will be worn when cleaning up small spillages/smears of blood, vomit or excreta. Soak up as much of the spillage as possible with disposable towels. Clean the area thoroughly with hot water and detergent and finally disinfect with bleach (1% hypochlorite solution) which should be left on for at least 10 minutes. Wipe the disinfectant off and dry thoroughly.

Hygiene and Disposal of Nappies

Children are changed in the designated toilet area, where nappy sacks and disinfectant wipes and gloves are available. Gloves are worn while changing the soiled nappy.

All soiled nappies and wipes are placed in nappy sacks and disposed of in a nappy bin. This bin is emptied on a regular basis by a contractor arranged through the church.
Once the child has been cleaned, changed and removed from the area, the changing surface is cleaned with a general purpose detergent and water and rinsed and dried. Hands are thoroughly washed after removing gloves.

Contact with Animals

See Health Protection Scotland Infection prevention and Control in Childcare settings 2011 for action to take before, during and after contact with animals.

HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C

These are spread by direct contact with an infected person's blood or certain body fluids. They are **not** spread by normal daily contact and activities eg. coughing, kissing, hugging or sharing utensils. Universal precautions are taken at all times when dealing with spillages of blood/body fluids as outlined earlier in this document.

Head Lice

These are a common problem affecting the whole community, whose main symptom is scalp itching, and they are contracted only by direct head to head contact. They can be treated with insecticide lotions or mechanically removed. An "alert letter" should be restricted to inform **only** the parents of the child who appears to have a head lice infection, who can then seek further advice from a health professional or pharmacist. Exclusion from nursery is generally **not** required.

Further advice can be obtained from www.gov.scot or www.hps.scot.nhs.uk

All staff and committee members will have a working knowledge of this policy.

Date: October 2021 **Name Joan Ritchie**