



Wise Owls Childcare Hygiene Policy

Maintaining good hygiene in our day nurseries is a top priority to ensure the health and safety of children and staff working for Wise Owls. Below are our hygiene practices designed to prevent the spread of illness and infection at nursery:

Handwashing: We have a routine schedule that includes regular handwashing for both children and staff, especially as part of our daily routines including after using the toilet, before all meals, following outdoor and messy play. We also teach children the importance of personal hygiene and self-care through fun and engaging activities that make learning enjoyable.

Hygiene: Staff wear protective gloves and aprons for every nappy change. Staff are mindful to ensure children's faces and noses are wiped with clean tissues and face cloths frequently throughout the day and after every meal, encouraging independence with our older children where they wash their own faces and hands after meals. Tissues are disposed of in a separate bin.

Sickness: To control the spread of infection, we have a strict sickness policy that dictates that any child or staff member that has a bout of sickness or diarrhoea is not permitted to return to the nursery until 48 hours after the last bout.

We have a sickness and managing medicines policy on our website

here: <https://www.wiseowlschildcare.co.uk/app/uploads/2024/09/DN-Sickness-and-Managing-Medicines-policy.pdf>

We encourage the children to blow their nose when they reach toddler room and we have 'snuffle stations' in each room, we encourage the children to cover their mouths when they cough.

Cleaning: We routinely clean and disinfect surfaces, including toys and books, using separate cleaning equipment for different areas like the kitchen, toilets, tables and play areas. We sterilise all toys regularly and immediately if a bug is circulating. We use non-toxic, eco-friendly spray. We also have a professional cleaner that routinely does a deep clean of the nursery.

Cleaning schedules: We have cleaning schedules to ensure that quality assurance checks are carried out regularly.

Waste disposal: We ensure that food, clinical, and general waste are separated and managed appropriately.

Ventilation: The setting is well ventilated ensuring windows are open. We have CO2 monitors to identify any areas that require ventilation.

Stopping the spread of infection and illness is a collective responsibility. It requires parents and staff to be vigilant with hygiene practices at nursery and at home, and it is essential that parents adhere to our sickness policy.

Published 17 October 2024