



# **Dunoon ELC Infection Control Policy**

**This policy was adopted at a meeting of:**

***Dunoon Primary Early Learning and Childcare***

May 2025

Signed: *Rachael Bryant*

Designation: Principal Teacher

## Statement of Purpose



The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 24 Every child has the right to the best possible health

At Dunoon Primary Early Learning and Childcare we recognise our 'duty of care' and requirement in law to provide a safe environment for the children in our care.

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. For ease of reference we will use the term **the guidance** when referring to this document throughout the policy.

Appendix 1 of the guidance will be completed and displayed for staff and all service users affirming the use of the guidance as our local policy.

Throughout this policy the term **parents** is used to include all main caregivers.

### Procedure

Dunoon Primary School ELC 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 with 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 Principal Teacher/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/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 Dunoon Primary School ELC site, the management team 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. The management team will also inform the Care Inspectorate of the outbreak.

### **Monitoring of this Policy**

It will be the responsibility of the Principal Teacher and Head Teacher to ensure that new or temporary staff are familiar with this policy and to monitor that it is being implemented by all staff, parents and children. This will be achieved through both formal and informal observation of staff practice, regular communications with parents and reminders to children of good hygiene habits. Additionally all relevant infection control records and cleaning checklists will be monitored on a regular basis.

### **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.

### **Links to national policy**

The Health and Social Care Standards. My support, my life (Scottish Government, 2017)

<https://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00520693.pdf>

*Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings* (Health Protection Scotland, May 2018)

<http://hub.careinspectorate.com/media/726344/infection-prevention-and-control-daycare-and-childminding-settings-2018.pdf>

[http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/A2%20Schools%20poster\\_1.pdf](http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/A2%20Schools%20poster_1.pdf)

(*Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings* – poster, October 2013)

<https://hub.careinspectorate.com/media/745591/nappy-changing-guidance-for-early-years-and-childcare-services-june-2018.pdf>

Setting the Table: Nutritional guidance and food standards for early years childcare providers in Scotland (NHS Health, Scotland, 2024)

[www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2024/10/setting-table-guidance/documents/setting-table-guidance/setting-table-](http://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2024/10/setting-table-guidance/documents/setting-table-guidance/setting-table-)

[guidance/govscot%3Adocument/setting-table-guidance.pdf](#)

<http://www.sssc.uk.com/about-the-sssc/codes-of-practice/what-are-the-codes-of-practice>

**Find out more:**

<http://www.child-smile.org.uk/documents/5040.aspx>

Childsmile National standards for nursery and school tooth brushing programme, updated 2015.

<http://www.washyourhandsofthem.com/the-campaign/childrens-pack.aspx>

(Health Protection Scotland 's National Hand Hygiene Campaign - "Handy" )