

Hygiene Policy

Our school recognises the importance of maintaining the highest possible standards of hygiene in and around the premises so as to minimise the risks posed to children, staff and other visitors.

The Headmistress and staff are committed to taking all practicable steps to prevent and control the spread of infectious germs, and to uphold high standards of personal hygiene in order to minimise the risk of catching or spreading infections.

Personal Hygiene

In all circumstances, staff will adhere to the following examples of good personal hygiene:

- Washing hands before and after handling food or drink.
- Washing hands after using the toilet.
- Encouraging children to adopt these same routines.
- Covering cuts and abrasions while at the premises.
- Keeping long hair tied back.
- Taking any other steps that are likely to minimise the spread of infections.

Hygiene in the school

The Headmistress and all staff will be vigilant to any potential threats to good hygiene in the school. To this end, a generally clean and tidy environment will be maintained at all times. More specifically, the Headmistress will ensure that toilets are cleaned daily and that there is always an adequate supply of soap and hand drying facilities for both staff and children. Staff will also be vigilant to any sharp objects, such as glass, which may be on the premises.

Dealing with Spillages

Spillages of substances likely to result in the spread of infections will be dealt with rapidly and carefully. Blood, vomit, urine and faeces will be cleaned up immediately and disposed of safely and hygienically. Staff will wear disposable plastic gloves and an apron while using bleach or disinfectant solution, and wash themselves thoroughly afterwards. Children will be kept well clear while such substances are being dealt with.

First Aid and Hygiene

Further to the provisions set out in the Health, Illness and Emergency policy, the designated First Aider will be mindful of the need to observe the highest standards of personal hygiene when administering any treatment to children.

As such, they will wash their hands thoroughly both before and after giving first aid, and ensure that any cuts, wounds or skin damage are covered by plasters or disposable gloves.

Kitchen Hygiene

All areas where food and drink are stored, prepared and eaten are prone to the spread of infections. Therefore, staff must be particularly careful to observe high standards of hygiene in such instances. To this end the following steps will be taken:

- Waste will be disposed of safely and all bins will be kept covered.
- Food storage facilities will be regularly and thoroughly cleaned.
- Kitchen equipment will be thoroughly cleaned after every use.
- Staff and children will wash and dry their hands thoroughly before coming into contact with food.
- If cooking is done as an activity, all surfaces and equipment involved will be thoroughly cleaned before and after the session.
- No members of staff other than those with catering responsibilities should be in the kitchen.

Animals

No animal will be allowed on the premises without the prior knowledge and permission of the Headmistress. Children are strongly encouraged from bringing pets or other animals to the school, and parents/carers are asked to help enforce this rule. If for any reason an animal does come onto the premises, the Headmistress will be immediately informed.

Policy Review and Dissemination

All members of staff and Governors will receive a copy of this policy. Copies may be reviewed by parents. This policy will be reviewed, evaluated and updated as required and formally on an annual basis to assess its relevance and effectiveness.

Date of update	(U) Updated (R) Reviewed by	How was updated disseminated	Parents informed	Policy on website
Jan 2015	H.Gee (U)	Staff meeting	Yes	Yes
Sep 2015	H.Gee (U)	Staff briefing	no	Yes
Sep 2016	H.Gee (R)	Staff email – all staff to familiarise	Yes	Yes
Oct 2016	S. Hughes (R)			