

Dress Code

- Staff must wear clothes and shoes that allow them to move freely and play with the children.
- Staff must wear clothes that are suitable to get messy and support children to engage with messy play.
- Staff must bring clothes to work that ensure they are able to support the children to play outside for long periods of time (warm/waterproof/sun protection).
- Staffs clothes must not have images or text that may offend others or be unsuitable for children.
- Staff must have regard to the fact that climbing, bending and sitting on the floor while playing with children may make clothes more revealing than they appear when standing in front of the mirror. Management reserve the right to discuss this with staff.
- Staff may not have long (real or synthetic) nails that may harbour germs, make it difficult to care for children and makes messy play difficult to participate in.

The Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) say that "appropriate hand hygiene includes diligently cleaning and trimming fingernails, which may harbour dirt and germs and can contribute to the spread of some infections, such as pinworms. Fingernails should be kept short, and the undersides should be cleaned frequently with soap and water. Because of their length, longer fingernails can harbour more dirt and bacteria than short nails, thus potentially contributing to the spread of infection."

As there seem to be some ambiguity around what constitutes 'long', we will follow the advice of the CDC "nail tips should be kept to ¼ inch in length" this means from where the nail leaves contact with your skin to the end of the nail should be no longer than 1/4 of an inch.

We will not be banning artificial nails as we know these are important to some of you, however you should perhaps be aware of this information from the CDC "A growing body of evidence suggests that wearing artificial nails may contribute to transmission of certain healthcare associated pathogens. Healthcare workers who wear artificial nails are more likely to harbour negative pathogens on their fingertips than are those who have natural nails, both before and after handwashing. " Please be vigilant cleaning under nails when you wash your hands, especially if you are wearing artificial nails.