

Infection Control

Viruses and infections can be easily passed from person to person by breathing in air containing the virus, which is produced when an infected person talks, coughs or sneezes. It can also spread through hand/face contact after touching a person or surface contaminated with viruses.

At Wood St Nursery, our staff follow the guidance below to reduce the possibility of a virus or infection from moving around the nursery:

- Encourage all children to use tissues when they have a runny nose, and to 'catch your cough' with their sleeves
- Ensure all tissues are disposed of in a hygienic way and all staff wash their hands if helping children with nose wiping and tissues
- Develop children's understanding of the need for good hygiene procedures in helping them to stay healthy
- Wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when changing nappies and dealing with any other bodily fluids; to dispose of these in the appropriate manner and wash hands immediately
- Clean all potties and changing mats after each use with antibacterial spray
- Clean toilets at least daily and check them throughout the day
- Remind children to wash their hands before eating, after visiting the toilet, or being in contact with any animal, and regularly explain the reasons for this
- Clean all toys, equipment and resources on a regular basis using antibacterial cleanser, hot soapy water, or through washing in the washing machine
- In addition wash or clean all equipment used by babies and toddlers as and when needed, for example teething toys after being used
- Store dummies in individual hygienic dummy boxes labelled with the child's name to prevent cross-contamination with other children
- Immediately clean and sterilise (where necessary) any dummy or bottle that falls on the floor or is handled by another child
- Provide labelled individual bedding for children that is not used by any other child and wash this at least once a week
- Follow the sickness and illness policy when children are ill to prevent the spread of any infection in the nursery. Staff are also requested to stay at home following the government Exclusion Table for children and young people <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/children-and-young-people-settings-tools-and-resources>

In addition:

- The nursery manager retains the right of refusal of all children, parents, staff and visitors who are deemed contagious and may impact on the welfare of the rest of the nursery
- Parents will be made aware of the need for these procedures in order for them to follow these guidelines whilst in the nursery

- Periodically each room in the nursery will be deep cleaned including carpets and soft furnishings to ensure the spread of infection is limited. This will be implemented earlier if the need arises
- The nursery will ensure stocks of tissues, hand washing equipment, cleaning materials and sterilising fluid are maintained at all times.