

Coldstream ELC

Infection Control Policy

Date: September 2024

Review Date: January 2026

1. Purpose

The aim of this policy is to ensure that all staff maintain the **highest hygiene standards** and follow established policies and guidelines to **prevent the spread of infections and viruses** within Coldstream ELC.

2. Transmission of Viruses and Infections

Viruses and infections can be transmitted through:

- Airborne droplets produced when an infected person talks, coughs, or sneezes.
- Direct physical contact with an infected person or contaminated surfaces.

Maintaining high hygiene standards is the most effective way to prevent the spread of infection.

3. Hygiene Practices for Children

- Encourage children to use tissues from the **'Snot Station'** when coughing or sneezing.
 - Dispose of tissues hygienically and ensure children **wash their hands immediately** after use.
 - Staff explain to children the importance of hygiene in staying healthy.
 - Children are reminded to wash their hands:
 - On arrival and before leaving ELC
 - Before eating
 - After using the toilet
 - After playing outside
 - After contact with animals
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4. Staff Hygiene and Protective Measures

- Staff must wear **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** when assisting with toileting or dealing with bodily fluids.
- PPE must be disposed of safely, and hands must be washed immediately afterward.
- Staff are expected to **stay home if contagious** to prevent the spread of infection.

- Staff have the right to **refuse entry** to any children, parents, staff, or visitors deemed contagious and likely to compromise the welfare of others. Refer to [child-care-setting-infection-control-may-2018.pdf](#) for exclusion recommendations.
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5. Cleaning and Sanitisation

- Toilets are checked **twice per session** by the school janitor and cleaned daily.
 - All toys, equipment, and resources are cleaned regularly using:
 - Antibacterial cleanser and hot soapy water
 - Washing machines for washable items
 - High-touch surfaces are cleaned frequently to minimise contamination.
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6. Managing Illness

- Children showing signs of illness will be managed according to the **Sickness and Illness Policy**.
 - Staff follow exclusion periods as outlined in public health guidance.
 - Parents are informed about the importance of keeping ill children at home to protect the ELC community.
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7. Parental Involvement

- Parents are informed of hygiene procedures and expected to follow guidelines while in the ELC.
 - Cooperation from parents is essential to ensure the health and safety of all children and staff.
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This policy ensures that **infection control is embedded in daily practice**, protecting children, staff, and visitors while promoting a healthy learning environment.

SLT Signature: *Catherine Douglas*

Date: 05.01.2026