Hand Washing Policy

Ratified by the Board Of Governors October 2020

Hand Washing Policy

This Policy is to ensure that our children, staff, parents and visitors are kept as healthy as possible.

Guidelines recommend that children in early years settings are taught the importance of hand washing to prevent the spread of infections.

It is the responsibility of the staff team to ensure the children understand the importance of hand hygiene and the reasons we wash hands. It is also the staff teams responsibility to ensure they lead by example washing hands regularly alongside the children.

We aim to provide a hygienic and safe environment for children and adults.

We aim to educate children about good hygiene practices, through the use of staff modelling, the use of books, videos and through roleplay.

Hand washing is the best way to limit the spread of germs.

Staff will support children to wash hands in bathroom when available and will remind and support children to wash their hands at the following times:

Before and after

Snack routine

Lunch time

Cooking activities

Dough play

After

Using the toilet

Handling animals/insects

Gardening

Messy play/mud kitchen activities

Outdoor play

Coughing or sneezing into their hands

Staff will show children how to wash their hands:

Pull up sleeves

Wet hands

Dispense soap onto hands

Rub soap over hands; making sure to wash front and back of hand and in between fingers

Singing song whilst washing

Rinse soap off fully

Shake water off hands

Dry thoroughly using 1 blue paper towel

Photographs of correct sequence/order will be displayed in the bathroom

Visuals will be displayed to support children with special needs

Social stories will be read to consolidate the importance of hand washing and support their understanding



