



Infection control

March 2024

At Elsworth Pre-School we promote the good health of all children attending through maintaining high hygiene standards and reducing the chances of infection being spread. We follow the Infection Control in Schools and other Childcare Settings guidance which sets out when and how long children need to be excluded from settings, when treatment/medication is required and where to get further advice from.

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.

We follow the guidance below to prevent a virus or infection from moving around the pre-school, Our staff:

- Encourage all children to use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch germs.
- Ensure all tissues are disposed of in a hygienic way and all children and staff wash their hands once the tissue is disposed of.
- Develop children's understanding of the above and the need for good hygiene procedures in helping them to stay healthy.
- Have access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for when changing nappies, toileting children and dealing with any other bodily fluids, if desired. Staff are requested to dispose of these in the appropriate manner and wash hands immediately.
- Clean and sterilise all potties and changing mats before and after each use.
- Clean toilets at least daily and check them throughout the day.
- Remind children to wash their hands before eating, after visiting the toilet, playing outside or being in contact with any animal and explain the reasons for this.
- Clean all toys, equipment and resources on a regular basis using antibacterial cleanser or through washing in a washing machine.
- Where applicable wear specific indoor shoes or slippers whilst inside the pre-school and make sure that children wear them as well.
- Follow the Sickness and Illness policy when children are ill to prevent the spread of any infection in the pre-school. Staff are also requested to stay at home if they are contagious.



In addition:

- The pre-school manager retains the right to refuse all children, parents/carers, staff and visitors who are deemed contagious and may impact on the health and welfare of the rest of the pre-school.
- Parents/carers are made aware of these procedures and the importance for them to follow these guidelines whilst in the pre-school.
- Periodically each room in the pre-school 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 pre-school will ensure stocks of tissues, hand washing equipment, cleaning materials and sterilising fluid are always maintained and increased during the winter months or when flu and cold germs are circulating.

Adopted on:	13 th March 2024
Adopted by:	Sophie Mills, Interim Pre-School Manager Hannah Holland, Chair of Trustees
Next Review Date:	13 th March 2025