

Infection Control Policy

Infection control and risk assessment in the setting will be reduced by following the guidance outlined in the (HSP) NHS Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings (Day Care and Childminding Settings)

[HPS Website - Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings \(Day Care and Childminding Settings\) \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://www.scot.nhs.uk/hps/inf-prevention-control-childcare-settings-day-care-childminding-settings/)

Cleaning practices

All cleaning practises are carried out in accordance with COVID-19 – guidance for non-healthcare settings (which includes advice on, amongst other things, detergents/ cleaning products) and Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings guidance.

This is an extension of the standard cleaning regime normally used in the settings, with touchpoints such as tabletops, chairs, doors, light switches, banisters, equipment, sinks, and toilets cleaned more regularly. There are daily, weekly, and monthly cleaning schedules which ensures that cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched objects, toys, soft furnishings, and hard surfaces is completed.

Children are discouraged from bringing toys from home to the setting. Staff recognise however, that some children may require a transitional object or toy as a comforter, and consideration will be given as to how to safely manage this to ensure children are supported in their transition from home to the setting to feel reassured and comforted. These will not be shared with other children and will be stored in the child's bag when not required.

Where possible, parents should provide the necessary clothing for outdoor play. Where this is not possible and children need to share outdoor clothes or footwear, risks will be reduced by ensuring good hand hygiene before and after dressing.

Surfaces in dining or snack areas are wiped down and disinfected in between use by each group of children.

All crockery and equipment used in the provision of meals and snacks for children are cleaned in the sink/dishwasher/with general-purpose detergent and dried thoroughly before being stored for re-use.

Ventilation

Good ventilation will be maintained in the setting by opening windows/doors where safe to do so. CO2 monitoring system will support this to always ensure good ventilation.

Enhanced hygiene

Children and visitors will be expected to follow enhanced hygiene arrangements for hand and respiratory hygiene when in the setting.

Staff will provide accessible handwashing facilities to the children whilst in the setting. Parents/carers/visitors will be asked to use antibacterial hand gel at the entrance to the setting.

Infection Control Policy

Children will have access to hand dryers, disposable paper towels or kitchen roll. Antibacterial hand gel is not recommended for children when soap and water is available. However, antibacterial hand gel will be supplied to children should it be required on outings.

[Health Protection Scotland guidance on infection prevention and control in childcare settings](#) advises that if there is no running water, hand wipes can be used. If wipes are being used in situations where running water is not available, it is recommended that hands are washed with soap and water at the earliest opportunity.

- Children will be encouraged to wash their hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Handwashing will take place upon entering the setting, before consuming food and after toileting, when moving from outside to inside, after handling animals.
- Children will be encouraged to use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze into, dispose of tissues appropriately and bins will be emptied regularly of waste.
- Staff will encourage children not to touch their face, where it is age appropriate to do so. Staff will use distraction methods and keep children busy, rather than making this an issue.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Use of PPE will continue to be based on a clear assessment of risk and need for an individual child or young person, such as personal care and contact with blood and body fluids. Disposable, single use gloves and aprons will be used in the following situations:

- Intimate care
- Administration of first aid
- Spillages of blood, other bodily fluids and disposing of dressings or equipment.
- When cleaning/using cleaning products

Exclusion Periods for Illness (Staff and Children)

To prevent the spread of infection, children and staff must remain at home for the recommended exclusion periods following illness. This follows NHS and Health Protection Scotland guidance.

- **Vomiting and/or diarrhoea** – Exclude for **48 hours** after symptoms have stopped.
- **COVID-19** – As per current Scottish Government guidance
- **Chickenpox** – Exclude until minimum **5 days after rash onset** and blisters have all crusted over.
- If unsure, we will follow advice from the **Health Protection Team** or **Care Inspectorate**

Outdoor Hygiene and Toy Cleaning

Outdoor play is encouraged daily, and hygiene is maintained by:

- Ensuring children wash hands after playing outside and before returning indoors.
- Cleaning shared outdoor equipment (e.g. balls, ride-ons) weekly or more often if needed.
- Encouraging children to wear appropriate clothing and ensuring shared outdoor clothing is used only when necessary and cleaned regularly.

Infection Control Policy

Cleaning Routines for Toys and Equipment

- **Daily:** Touchpoints, toilets, snack surfaces, floors in activity areas
- **Weekly:** Toys (especially those mouthed), soft furnishings, outdoor play equipment
- **Monthly:** Deep clean of full setting, storage units, and less frequently used areas

Waste Disposal

- All waste, including used tissues, gloves, and disposable aprons, is placed in lidded bins and removed regularly.
- Bins are cleaned and disinfected weekly, or more often as needed.
- PPE is disposed of after each single use and never reused.

Pets and Contact with Animals

No resident pets are kept in the setting. If animals are brought in for educational purposes, this will be risk assessed in advance. Children will wash hands before and after contact. Animals will not be allowed in food preparation or eating areas.

Food Safety and Business Registration

The Dunning Village Hall is registered as a food business with the local authority. All food preparation follows safe food handling procedures in line with environmental health guidance. Staff are trained in food hygiene where required.

Contact telephone numbers.

Health Protection Team	01382 596976 or 01382 596987
Environmental Health Officer	01738 476476
Care Inspector	0345 600 9527
Who to contact if there is an infection outbreak	01382 596976 or 01382 596987