

Infection Control Policy

Sickness and/or Diarrhoea

Any child or staff member exhibiting any of the following symptoms will be considered to be carrying a communicable disease and should not attend Kidsize:

- temperature of 38°C or over in combination with any other sign or symptom of illness
- diarrhoea (three or more abnormally loose stools within a 24 hour period)
- severe coughing causing the face to become red or blue or to make a whooping sound
- difficult or rapid breathing
- yellowish skin or eyes
- redness of the eye or eyelid, obvious discharge, matted eyelashes, burning, itching or eye pain
- untreated, infected skin patches, unusual spots or rashes
- unusually dark urine and/or grey or white stool
- stiff neck with an elevated temperature
- evidence of untreated lice, scabies, or other parasitic infestation
- sore throat or difficulty in swallowing
- vomiting more than one time or when accompanied by any other sign or symptom of illness

If a child becomes ill with any of the above symptoms while at Kidsize, the parent or guardian will be contacted to immediately pick up the child. The child will be separated from the group, supervised within sight and hearing of an adult, and made as comfortable as possible until the parent/guardian arrives.

Children who are not feeling well, but who are not exhibiting any of the above symptoms will be isolated and observed for further signs of illness. If a child does not feel well enough to participate in the daily activities the parent will be called to pick up the child.

The child will not be allowed back to Kidsize until he or she is symptom-free for a period of 48 hours or until a doctor's written permission verifies that the child is no longer contagious. A child who is absent from school for illness will not be permitted to attend Kidsize that day. No credit or refunds will be given for days missed due to illness.

Cleaning up sickness/diarrhoea or other body fluids

Staff must wear disposable nitrile gloves whilst cleaning any form of body fluids i.e. sickness, diarrhoea, blood, mucus etc. The specially designated cleaning products stored in the cleaning cupboard should be used. There is a bucket, disposable clothes, antiseptic disinfectant and bleach. Disposable clothes or tissues should be used and immediately place all the items used to clean up including the gloves into a plastic bag. The bag should be double bagged and put into the sanitary bins/nappy bins within the community centre for disposal.

Staff must then ensure that they wash their own hands thoroughly before returning to assist with other activities.

Coughs and Sneezes

Please encourage children to use tissues to blow their nose if it is runny and to use a tissue to cough into if they have a cough. The tissue should then be immediately disposed of and not carried around by the child as this will cause the germs to spread. The child/staff member should then immediately go and wash their hands.

Head lice

If a staff member notices a child excessively scratching or rubbing their head they should advise the parent of this at the end of the day and ask them to check their hair that evening. Staff should check their own hair if a child has or is thought to have head lice.

If a staff member notices head lice on a child the child's parent should be contacted to come and take the child home and commence treatment. Once one course of treatment/shampoo or a full combing method treatment has been carried out the child can return to Kidsize but the parent must continue to treat for the eggs for a few weeks to ensure that they have all gone.

Costumes

Be aware that lice eggs can remain in wigs and hats and can be passed on easily to others. Ensure that hats and wigs are checked and regularly cleaned by freezing method.

Hygiene – day to day

- Staff and children must always wash hands after using the toilet
- All children must wash their hands prior to handling food or drink
- Disposable paper towels are used for hand-drying by adults and children and air dryers are used for hand drying in Community centre toilets
- Children should ensure they wash hands after messy play/after playing outdoors
- Staff should maintain good hygiene practices within Kidsize and provide a positive role model for the children – e.g. washing their hands, discussing with the children their reasons for doing so before preparation of snack and activities
- Surfaces, chairs and toys should be sprayed with anti-bacterial spray and dried with paper roll after each session.

Hygiene – Food Safety and Food Handling

- Snack time provides an excellent opportunity for reinforcing children's understanding of the importance of healthy eating
- Preparing snack and carrying out activities with the children forms an integral part of the day at Kidsize. Children should always be carefully supervised when helping with the delivery of snack
- To carry out these duties safely and effectively, all staff must have their food hygiene certificate and have a heightened awareness of food safety regulations to prevent the spread of food-borne infections
- The member of staff on snack duty ensures that all tables, sinks and worktops are thoroughly cleaned with antibacterial cleaner, the floor of the snack area is swept and dry and cleaning materials for use in the snack area are store safely in a designated area which is out of reach of children
- Kidsize cups, plates and bowls are washed after use and left to drip dry over-night and stored in the locked Kidsize cupboard
- Staff members must adhere to rules of food preparation, perishable food is kept in the fridge, the use by dated are strictly checked, stock is rotated and the fridge temperature log completed daily
- Staff are alert to choking hazards and ensure that the children are always supervised by an adult when eating snack
- Staff are alert to hazards of spills during the preparation or serving of snack and deal with these promptly and appropriate

COVID-19 Procedures

For COVID-19 Policy and Procedures please read the COVID-19 Policy.

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By: Jenna Millar
By: Jenna Millar