



Safe and Healthy Preschool Policy

At Ribbons Preschool we are committed to providing a workplace which supports and encourages a healthy staff team through staff training, health and safety awareness and supervisions.

Dress code

Staff must follow our dress code at all times. The dress code is detailed in our uniform policy.

Staff breaks

It is the responsibility of the preschool manager to ensure that all staff working four hours or more take a break of 20 minutes, and that all staff working six hours take a break of 60 minutes and ensure that ratios are maintained.

Staff under 18 require a break of 30 minutes in circumstances where they work 4.5 hours a day. All breaks should be taken away from an employee's normal work area (where this is applicable).

Personal hygiene

Staff must follow the personal hygiene code at all times and encourage children to adopt the same good personal hygiene code themselves.

All hands must be washed before handling food, after using the toilet or toileting children, after playing outside, wiping noses, messy play activities and after contact with animals.

After noses have been wiped the tissue must be disposed of hygienically and hands should be washed.

Cleaning

The preschool is committed to providing a safe, happy and healthy environment for children to play, grow and learn. Cleanliness is an essential element of this practice. The preschool will be cleaned daily and regular checks will be made to the bathrooms. These will be cleaned at least daily (more if necessary i.e. at lunch time). The nappy changing facility will be cleaned after every use and potties will be cleaned out after every use. Any mess caused throughout the day will be cleaned up as necessary to ensure that a hygienic environment is provided for the children in our care.

Kitchen

Staff are made aware of the basic food hygiene standards through appropriate training and this is reviewed every three years.

- Fridges to be cleaned out weekly
- Microwave to be cleaned after every use
- Oven to be cleaned out regularly and recorded
- Freezers to be cleaned out every three months and recorded
- All cupboards to be cleaned out monthly
- Fridge and freezer temperatures must be recorded first thing in the morning by the manager/cook and last thing at night

- All food to be covered at all times in and out of the fridge and dated to show when each product was opened
- Care must be taken to ensure that food is correctly stored in fridges
- When re-heating food, it should be over 75°C, checked with the probe thermometer and recorded, then cooled down before serving. Food prepared on the premises must be checked with the probe thermometer before serving
- Food served but not used immediately should be appropriately covered and placed in the fridge/freezer within 60 minutes. If this is not followed, food should be discarded immediately
- All opened packets to be dated when opened and placed in an airtight container e.g. raisins, cereal etc.
- Surfaces to be cleaned with anti-bacterial spray
- Only appropriate coloured kitchen cloths to be used (please follow the chart on the wall). These must be washed daily on a hot wash
- Windows protected by fly guards to be opened as often as possible along with the vents
- All plugs to be pulled out of their sockets at the end of each day and switches switched off where practicable (with the exception of the fridge and freezer)
- Children must NOT enter the kitchen except for supervised cooking activities
- Doors/gates to the kitchen to be kept closed/locked at all times.

Preschool

- Staff must be aware of general hygiene in the preschool and ensure that high standards are kept at all times
- Regular toy washing rotas must be established in all rooms and recorded. Toys should be washed with sanitising fluid
- Floors should be cleaned during the day when necessary. Vacuum cleaner bags (where used) should be changed frequently
- Staff are requested to use the appropriate coloured mop for the task or area (see chart on wall) and mop heads should be washed in a separate wash at least weekly
- Chairs must be cleaned thoroughly after every use.
- All surfaces should be kept clean and clutter free
- Children must always be reminded to wash their hands after using the bathroom and before meals. Staff should always encourage good hygiene standards, for example, not eating food that has fallen on the floor
- Children should learn about good hygiene routines and why they need to wash their hands, wipe their noses and cover their mouths when coughing.

Staff rooms

- It is the responsibility of every member of staff to ensure that their staff room is kept clean and tidy
- Fridges must be cleaned out weekly
- Microwave to be cleaned after every use
- Surfaces to be wiped down daily
- All implements used for lunch or break to be washed and tidied away.

COVID-19

We will follow our safe and healthy Preschool policy with the following additional procedures:

Personal hygiene: Staff are reminded to ensure personal hygiene at all times, including washing hands as they enter the building and periodically throughout the day (see infection control policy)

Cleaning: Staff are asked to support the continued cleaning of the nursery throughout the day e.g. toilets, wiping light switches, kitchen areas.

Staff breaks: All staff breaks will be staggered to minimise the number staff in the staff room at one time and ensure social distancing. Staff are encouraged to stay in at break times, where possible.

Use of offices: Staff will be asked to stagger the use of the office to limit occupancy. All equipment e.g. mouse and keyboards, are to be cleaned after each use.

Staff equipment: Equipment used by staff such as stationary, tablets etc. will be allocated to individual staff members, where possible, and cleaned regularly.

Uniform: Staff are asked to wear a clean uniform each day and change into/out of their uniform/work clothes in the childcare setting.

Travelling to work: Staff are encouraged to drive alone, walk or cycle to work and avoid public transport at peak times, where possible. We will advise staff of the guidance on precautionary measures to be taken when travelling using public transport.

Essential supplies: We will ensure an adequate supply of essential supplies by ordering in advance and have contingency plans in place to minimise the impact of any shortages of supplies. The setting will not be able to operate without essential supplies required for ensuring infection control.

This policy was adopted on: 23.08.19

This policy was amended on: 09.01.2020

Signed on behalf of the preschool: K.Watkins-Freeman

Date for review: 09.01.2021

Policy reviewed: 09.01.2021

Date for review: 09.01.2022