



Infection Control & Procedure Policy

Bijou Day Nursery & Crèche, Cowbridge

Policy owner: Nursery Manager / Rheolwr y Feithrinfa

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1. Policy Statement

Bijou Day Nursery & Crèche takes all reasonable steps to prevent and control infection among children, staff, and visitors. Effective infection control protects the health and well-being of everyone who uses our service.

This policy complies with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984, the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, the Food Safety Act 1990, the Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006, the Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010 (as amended), and the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Childcare (2016). We also follow guidance from Public Health Wales and the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA).

2. Hand Hygiene

Hand washing is the single most important measure for preventing the spread of infection. All children and staff wash their hands:

- On arrival at the nursery
- Before and after handling food or drink
- After using the toilet or having a nappy changed
- After outdoor play
- After contact with bodily fluids (blood, vomit, mucus)
- After handling animals or pets
- After coughing, sneezing, or blowing noses

Liquid soap and disposable paper towels are available at all hand-washing stations. Staff support and supervise children's hand washing, teaching effective technique in an age-appropriate way.

3. Cleaning & Disinfection

- The nursery follows a documented cleaning schedule — surfaces, floors, toilets, nappy-changing areas, door handles, and light switches are cleaned and disinfected daily
- Toys and resources are cleaned regularly and immediately if contaminated with bodily fluids

- Soft furnishings (bedding, cushions, dressing-up clothes) are laundered at least weekly and immediately if soiled
- Anti-bacterial spray and disposable cloths are used for surface cleaning
- Mops and buckets are colour-coded for different areas (kitchen, bathroom, play areas)
- All cleaning products are stored securely in compliance with COSHH regulations

4. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Disposable gloves and aprons are worn when: changing nappies, dealing with bodily fluids, preparing food, administering first aid
- Used PPE is disposed of immediately in lined, lidded bins
- Hands are washed after removing PPE

5. Illness & Exclusion Periods

Children and staff who are unwell should not attend the nursery. We follow UKHSA / Public Health Wales guidance on recommended exclusion periods. Key examples:

ILLNESS	EXCLUSION PERIOD
Diarrhoea / vomiting	48 hours from last episode
Chickenpox	5 days from onset of rash (or until all blisters have crusted)
Hand, foot & mouth	Until well enough to attend (not usually excluded unless very unwell)
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted/healed or 48 hours after antibiotics started
Conjunctivitis	Not usually excluded; treatment advised
Scarlet fever	24 hours after starting antibiotics
Measles	4 days from onset of rash
COVID-19 symptoms	Follow current Public Health Wales guidance

If a child becomes unwell during the day, they are made comfortable in a quiet area, supervised at all times, and parents are contacted to collect them as soon as possible.

6. Notifiable Diseases

- If we become aware of a notifiable disease, we inform Public Health Wales and CIW
- If food poisoning affects two or more children, Environmental Health and CIW are notified
- Parents are informed of any confirmed cases of infectious disease in the nursery (without identifying the affected child)

7. Bodily Fluid Spills

- Blood, vomit, urine, or faeces spills are cleaned up immediately using the spill kit procedure

- Staff wear gloves and aprons, the area is cleaned with disinfectant, and contaminated materials are disposed of in a sealed bag
- The area is ventilated and dried before children re-enter

8. Staff Training

- All staff are trained in infection control during induction
- Refresher training is provided annually and when new guidance is issued

9. Related Policies

- Health & Safety Policy
- Nappy Changing Policy
- Medication Policy
- Nutrition & Meal Time Policy
- Immunisation / Vaccination Policy

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