

Polasaithe Naíonra Céimeanna Beaga

Polasaí 38: Pest Control



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1. Pest Control

Principle:

We work hard to keep a clean and hygienic environment for children staff and parents/guardians. The Naíonra will ensure children and staff are not exposed to pests (insects, cockroaches, rats, mice, etc.) pest residue, and the chemicals used to control them.

Statement of Intent:

We are committed to ensuring that the service is a pest free environment.

Procedure:

- The responsibility for Pest Control lies with the Manager
- The staff should report to the Manager immediately if they have any concerns regarding pests of any kind. Staff should be alert to the possibility of infestation on discovery of any of the following:
 - Direct sightings of vermin/pests
 - Droppings near food source
 - Evidence of nesting
 - Evidence of gnawing
- Food should be kept covered or stored in airtight pest proof containers.
- Spillages should be promptly cleaned up.
- Proper sanitation will be maintained and correct disposal of rubbish and food waste will be maintained to prevent conditions for pests.
- Water leaks will be repaired and standing water will be eliminated whenever possible.

- Repairs will be performed as needed to prevent pest access to buildings or to hiding spaces in walls and equipment.
- Pest management decisions will be based on the results of regular inspections.
- If a pesticide is needed, the least hazardous pesticide is selected that will effectively control the pest problem.
- Pesticides will not be applied when children are present. Toys and other items mouthed or handled by the children will be removed from the area before pesticides are applied. Children will not return to the treated area within two hours of a pesticide application or as specified on the pesticide label, whichever time is greater.
- In the event of an emergency where pests pose an immediate health threat to children and staff (e.g. wasps) and pesticides are applied, ensure that children will not return to the treated area within two hours of a pesticide application or as specified on the pesticide label, whichever time is greater.
- At least two days notice, but not more than 30 days advance notice, of pesticide application will be given to parents/guardians and staff except in emergencies where pests pose an immediate health threat to children or staff (e.g. wasps).
- Parents/guardians and staff will be notified as soon as possible when advance notice is not provided and include an explanation of the emergency, the reason for the late notice and the name of pesticide applied.
- Access to bait boxes and other forms of pest control will never be accessible to children.
- A record of pest control measures will be kept.