

Polasaithe

Naíonra Céimeanna Beaga

Polasaí 34: Polasaí ar Ghalair Thógálacha / Infection Control



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1. Polasaí ar Ghalair Thógálacha

Tá sé mar aidhm ag an Naíonra seo timpeallacht sácháilte agus sláintiúil a chur ar fáil do pháistí, don fhoireann agus do thuismitheoirí. Ní chóir do pháiste atá tinn thar oíche freastal ar an Naíonra. Má ta galar tógálach ar pháiste, m.sh. deilgeanach, an bhrúitíneach dhearg, leicneach, tá sé tábhachtach go gcuirfidh an tuismitheoir é sin in iúl don Stiúrthóir, sa chaoi sin is féidir fógra a thabhairt do thuismitheoirí eile. Tá sé de chúram ar fhoireann an Naíonra, má tá galar tógálach ann fógra dátheangach faoi sin a chur ar an doras taobh amuigh. Ar an mbealach sin tá rogha ag tuismitheoirí. Níl cead ag an Stiúrthóir nó éinne ag obair sa Naíonra cógas a thabhairt do pháiste. Is ar an tuismitheoir/caomhnóir atá an cúram sin.

2. Infection Control

We aim to promote and maintain the health of children and staff through the control of infectious illnesses. We aim to control infection by providing on-going infection control training for staff (see also Hand-washing, Toileting, Food Hygiene, Cleanliness and Hygiene, Spillages and Hazards, Illness Policies). It is our aim to minimise the spread of infection for staff and children through the implementation of controls that reduce the transmission and spread of germs. We aim to promote and maintain the health of children and staff through the control of infectious illnesses.

Policy and Procedure:

- Exclusion guidelines as recommended by the Preschool Environmental Health Officer apply in the case of all suspected infectious conditions. These guidelines are contained in our policies and procedures and displayed in the service.

- Parents/guardians will be informed should staff, children or visitors to the service report the presence of any contagious condition to the manager

Any child or adult with symptoms of an infectious illness will be asked not to attend The Naíonra until they are no longer infectious. The management of Naíonra will ensure all areas of the premises are thoroughly disinfected, including play areas, toilets, toys and all equipment.

Infectious illness can cause significant ill health among young children and can be transmitted by direct or indirect contact including:

- Contact with infected people or animals.
- By infecting oneself with the body's own germs.
- By hand to mouth transmission.
- By the air / by insects, pests, animals.
- Indirect transmission e.g. toys, door handles, toilets, floors, tabletops etc.
- By direct – person to person.

Reporting /Recording of Illness

- Staff and parents/guardians must report any infectious illness or similar to the manager.
- Unwell children will be excluded from the service until the appropriate exclusion period for that illness is finished. (See Illness Policy).
- All staff are aware of the procedures for dealing with appropriate daily and weekly cleaning routines and bodily fluid spillages. All cleaning is checked by management.

A contingency plan is in place should an outbreak of an infectious disease occur. All staff roles and responsibilities regarding reporting procedures are clearly defined.

- The Manager will report an outbreak of any infectious disease to the Tusla Preschool Environmental Health Officer and the Public Health Department.
- The Manager will record all details of illness reported to them by staff or reported by parents/guardians of a child attending the service. These details will include the name, symptoms, dates and duration of illness.

Exclusion from the Naíonra

- Children will be excluded from service based on the time frames outlined in the exclusion criteria (see Illness Policy).
- A doctor's certificate may be required for certain conditions to ensure they are no longer contagious before children return to the Preschool
- Children and Staff should remain at home if they are suffering from general diarrhoea or vomiting until 48 hours after being symptom free.

Hand Hygiene:

- Hand washing facilities are always available for children and include hot (not exceeding 43 degrees) and cold water, liquid soap and paper hand towels.
- Hand washing facilities are available in all toilets, the kitchen, and Naíonrarooms.
- Children are encouraged and reminded to wash their hands after using the toilet, before eating and after playing outside. See Hand Washing Policy
- We also occasionally use anti bacterial alcohol gel

Staff must wash their hands:

- Before preparing or serving food.
- Before eating or drinking.
- After going to the toilet.
- After assisting children at the toilet.
- After dealing with any body fluids including nose cleaning.
- After cleaning procedures.
- After caring for sick children.
- After handling soiled clothing or items.
- After dealing with waste.
- After removing disposable gloves and/or aprons.
- After tea and lunch breaks.
- After smoking.

Hand Washing Technique

Wet hands under hot water (not exceeding 43°C for children to prevent scalding), apply liquid soap, rub vigorously paying particular attention to palms, backs, wrists, fingernails and fingers and rubbing between each finger and around the thumbs, rinse, dry thoroughly using disposable paper towels and turn off taps using the paper towel. (See Hand Washing Policy)

Toilets

Toilet areas, including toilet handles, doors, toilet seats and wash hand basins are cleaned frequently throughout the day in accordance with the cleaning schedule and immediately if soiled.

Bodily Fluid Spillage

- Spills of blood, vomit, urine or excreta will be cleaned up as quickly as possible. The area will be sectioned off if possible until the spill has been dealt with.
- Disposable plastic gloves are worn when cleaning up any bodily fluid spillage. Paper towels are used to clean up spillages and placed directly into a plastic bag for disposal.

- Ordinary household bleach freshly diluted (1 to 10 parts water), is used for cleaning and disinfections of bodily fluid spillages. (This solution should not make contact with skin. If accidental contact does occur, the skin, eyes or mouth should be flushed with cold water.
- If possible and safe to do so, diluted bleach will be poured directly over the spill; it will then be covered and mopped up with disposable paper towels.
- Disposable paper towels and gloves are disposed of in a plastic bag and sealed.
- A supply of bleach and plastic bags is kept together in a secure place in each room in case of such an incident.

(See Cleanliness and Hygiene)

Nose Blowing Procedure

Tissues are available at all times and children will be taught the following etiquette for nose blowing:

- Get a tissue
- Fold it in half
- Blow nose gently
- Wipe nose clean
- Throw tissue away in bin
- Wash hands

Cleaning:

- All areas are cleaned regularly in accordance with a documented cleaning policy and rota. Toilets and hard contact surfaces (playroom tables) are cleaned frequently.
- All cleaning equipment is kept separate to each area and easily distinguished e.g. colour coded.
- Playroom tables are cleaned before being used for meal and snack times.

Toys and Equipment:

- Toys and equipment will be cleaned according to the toy cleaning programme and schedule.
- Toys and equipment will be cleaned with hot water, detergent, and disinfectant.
- The play area is inspected before use daily and cleaned of any pet droppings or soil.