Health and Hygiene Policy

Town Street Playgroup is committed to providing and promoting a clean and hygienic environment for children, staff, and visitors. All staff, parents, carers, and volunteers are aware of and follow hygiene procedures, and children are shown the importance of good hygiene practices.

* All staff will complete Food Safety and Hygiene Level 2 training and Infection Prevention and Control in an Early Years Setting as part of their induction.
* Practitioners are to be good role models, demonstrating the washing of hands after using the toilet, after wiping noses, before the preparation and eating of food.
* Children are encouraged to wash hands before eating or cooking, after using the toilet, after wiping nose, touching animals and after playing outside and touching malleable substances such as sand, water, play dough etc. Explanations behind the requests are given.
* Soap, paper towels, water, tissues and toilet roll are always made available, and children are taught how to use and dispose of them appropriately.
* Children are also encouraged to use the toilet independently, blow their own noses, and shield their mouths when coughing.
* Gloves and aprons must always be worn when changing nappies or clearing up body fluids and spillages. Staff need to have a good understanding of how infections can be transmitted.

Clean Environment:

* A daily cleaning routine will be in place for the setting to include all play areas, toilets, kitchens and nappy-changing areas.
* All cleaning equipment to be checked regularly to ensure it is clean and appropriate for use.
* All toys and outdoor play equipment will be cleaned and checked daily for defects.
* Sand / water play areas will be checked daily and sand/water is regularly changed.
* All surfaces cleaned daily with an appropriate cleaner, and tables on which children eat to be wiped before and after use
* All rubbish will be disposed of safely to ensure that children do not have access to rubbish.
* Any spills of bodily fluids will be wiped up and disposed of appropriately. Floors and other affected surfaces will be disinfected using suitable cleaning products diluted according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Fabrics contaminated with body fluids will be thoroughly washed in hot water. Soiled clothing will be stored in sealed bags to be sent home.

Food Hygiene

* All areas where food is prepared must be cleaned daily with appropriate disinfectants.
* All adults and children are encouraged to wash their hands before preparing or eating food.
* All tables to be wiped prior to children eating at them.
* Children taking part in food activities will be taught the importance of hand washing and simple hygiene rules.

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