

**Infectious Disease Control**

**1. Purpose**

Infectious control safety is a legal requirement and in childcare settings, involves carrying out risk assessments and putting measures in place to control any6 risks identified.

Some medical conditions make children more vulnerable to infections that would not usually be serious in most children. Pregnant employees are vulnerable if they come into contact with a child or adult in the setting who has an infectious disease such as chickenpox or measles.

**2. Hazards**

Hazards include, but are not limited to: − Contaminated equipment − Blood and body fluid spills, coughs and sneezes. The environment including indoor and outdoor play areas − Used linen − Children and employees who may have infectious disease

**3. Responsibilities**

**3.1. Deepdales Responsibilities**

− To carry out a risk assessment that identifies infection risks in the workplace, who might be affected and control measures necessary to manage the risk

− To provide personal protective equipment (PPE) for issue to employees as required by the risk assessment

− To investigate all infection control incidents and ensure that any subsequent action is planned − To seek advice from health protection teams and other supporting bodies regarding any relevant health issues

− To provide training for employees in standard infection control precautions, to include:

- Hand hygiene for both employees and children

- Respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette

- Cleaning and disinfection procedures including dealing with spillages of blood and body fluids - Protocols for needle stick injury

Arrangements for activities involving contact or potential contact with animals or animal bodily fluids - Personal protective equipment

- Exclusive policies

− To monitor and review the effectiveness of the arrangements − To report any outbreaks to local Health Protection Teams, as outlined in G8.

**3.2. Employee’s Responsibilities**

− Take care of themselves and others in respect of work activities that give rise to the potential for infection

− Follow training, guidance and instruction given, to prevent injury or ill health

− Use appropriate resources to minimise infection − Be aware of risks and follow policies and procedures

− Report any health issue, which may affect their ability to work

− Report any accident, incident or near miss via completion of an accident report − Cover cuts and abrasions with suitable waterproof dressing and wear gloves, where necessary

− Use any equipment provided, including PPE as trained to do so

− Challenge inappropriate hygiene practice − Report to the Setting Manager, and/or Director of Operations, any hazardous or dangerous situations