

Immanuel Toy Washing and Disinfecting Policy and Procedures –COVID-19

Policy Statement

Immanuel Child Care (ICC) is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for children, families and employees. ICC will take reasonable precaution to prevent the risk of communicable diseases within all our locations.

Purpose

To ensure that all employees of ICC are aware of, and adhere to, the directive established by Toronto Public Health (TPH), and Children's Services.

Application

This policy applies to all employees, students, community members, and any other persons engaged in business with ICC.

Procedure

The disinfection of toys is vital to ensuring the health and safety of children as it reduces and mitigates the potential spread of germs and viruses among children and those who may come into contact with them.

When disinfecting only approved products can be used.

Ecolab disinfectant will be used for all general disinfecting procedures OR

Use a chlorine bleach solution. Prepare fresh bleach solutions each day.

All toys that are plush must be removed and not used in play, these include, stuffed animals, hand puppets, cloth toys etc. All porous toys or materials that cannot be effectively cleaned and disinfected must be removed and not used in play, including un-wipeable books. If a child uses a book it must be immediately taken out of circulation and placed in a sealed plastic container for 7 days.

Avoid sharing toys between cohorts if possible. When toys must be shared, they must be cleaned and disinfected between cohorts.

Cleaning and Disinfection of Toys using a Mechanical Dishwasher

It is recommended that the dishwasher be used for toy washing whenever possible:

- The rinse cycle must meet a minimum of 82 degrees Celsius
- Only use the dishwasher in the kitchen when it is not being used for any other purposes such as washing dishes, food preparation.
- Toys are air dried in a designated area that is separate from bathrooms or change tables and protected from sources of contamination

Manual Cleaning and Disinfection of Toys

Small toys that can be immersed in water should use the 3 Bin- 4 Step method for washing. Please following the steps below:

1. Sink/Bin - wash with soap and warm water to clean visible dirt
2. Sink/Bin - rinse soap off with clean water
3. Sink/Bin - soak in disinfectant mixture for the appropriate contact time to disinfect
4. Air dry toys by placing them on a Drying Tray

Cleaning and Disinfecting Large Toys/Equipment In-Place using approved disinfectant

Large toys, wooden toys, cots, etc. that cannot be immersed in a disinfectant solution should use this method for washing. Please follow the steps below:

1. Clean with soap and water using a cloth
2. Wipe with a clean wet cloth to rinse
3. Disinfect with approved disinfectant and have it remain wet on the surface for the appropriate contact time (**1 minute** for all disinfectant wipes on above list). Do not spray product to toys and surfaces when children or other staff are nearby
4. Allow toys to air dry

Frequencies and Toy Cleaning

- Toy cleaning schedules will be posted in each classroom and updated daily by the staff person responsible for the area.
- Toys should be cleaned and disinfected between users.
 - Toys that cannot be cleaned and disinfected immediately should be placed in a designated dirty toy bin. The bin should be clearly labelled and inaccessible to children
- Cots must be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- Refer to Cleaning and Disinfecting Schedule –COVID-19 and Environmental Cleaning and Disinfecting Policy and Procedures – COVID-19 for more guidance.

Handling used toys

- Toys that have become visibly dirty or that have come into contact with body fluids (for example, toys that have been mouthed) should be taken out of circulation immediately after child is finished with it and cleaned and disinfected immediately. Ensure that hand hygiene is completed. Toys that cannot be cleaned and disinfected immediately should be placed in a designated dirty toy bin. The bin should be clearly labelled and inaccessible to children.

Policy and Procedure Review

This policy and procedure will be reviewed and signed off by all employees before commencing employment, and at any time where a change is made.

Revised July, 2020