**John Logie Baird ELCC**

**Infection Control Policy**

**Statement of purpose**

At John Logie Baird ELCC we recognise our ‘duty of care’ and requirement in law to provide **a safe environment** for the children in our care. **The Health and Social Care Standards. My support, my life (Scottish Government, 2017)** reflect this duty.

Standard 5: I experience a **high quality environment** if the organisation provides the premises: 5.2, 5.4, 5.17, 5.18, 5.19, 5.22.

We will ensure that staff are fully trained to enable the setting to meet these requirements and follow the National Guidance ***Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings*** (Health Protection Scotland, September 2015), recommended as best practice by the Care Inspectorate. For ease of reference we will use the term **the guidance** when referring to this document throughout the policy.

Throughout this policy the term **parents** is used to include all main caregivers.

**Prevention of Spread of Infection**

In order to minimise the spread of infection John Logie Baird ELCC follow standard infection control precautions.

We carry out daily risk assessments appropriate to our setting and current circumstances and maintain up to date records. In carrying out these risk assessments we will take account of the environment, daily routines, regular activities such as outings.

We also take into consideration the risk to all service users especially those who are more vulnerable to infection e.g. pregnant woman, children/young adults with conditions or on medication that makes them more susceptible to infection etc. In order to facilitate this parents are requested on their child’s admission to the setting to inform us of any relevant pre-existing conditions and also to inform us of illnesses as they occur.

We ensure that all parents have access to information regarding immunisation. The child’s current immunisation status will be checked on admission and the parent’s reminded of the benefits of this programme.

Information gathered from risk assessments will be shared with all staff and with children.

**Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs)**

All staff will be fully trained in these procedures and training refreshed at least annually. This training will include information on how infection spreads. The chart detailing the ‘chain of infection’ will be copied and displayed as appropriate for staff and parent information. This could be sent to parents via expressions or as an information leaflet.

SICPs are described in full within the guidance and encompass the following areas:

**Hand Hygiene** – Children are encouraged to wash hands when they first enter the setting and throughout the day and especially after using the toilet and before eating or handling food.

**Respiratory and Cough Hygiene** – Children and staff are encouraged to put their hand over their mouth when coughing and immediately wash their hands.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE**) – Staff should ensure they utilise protective clothing/equipment when changing, toileting children or cleaning a wound. These include disposable gloves and aprons.

**Cleaning of the Environment** **– is the routine cleaning of the environment on a daily basis. This also includes toilets, hand basins and changing areas. Weekly deep clean.**

**Equipment cleanliness** **– All toys and equipment will be well maintained and safe for use and are cleaned daily and on a regular basis.**

**Dealing with Spillages of Blood and Body Fluids** – Staff should follow the procedures ensuring they utilise (PPE).

**Management of Waste** – This includes nappy waste and the disposal of sharps in the allocated appropriate bins.

**Linen/Laundry** – Staff ensure laundry is kept updated and all children have their own individual linen (2’s room).

**Food and Kitchen Hygiene**

We recognise that the responsibility for food safety lies with the individual setting and SICPs will be followed at all times in the preparation of food.

In line with good practice outlined in *Setting the Table: Nutritional guidance and food standards for early years and childcare providers in Scotland* (NHS Health, Scotland, 2015) all members of staff has a basic food hygiene certificate that is up to date.

**Early Warning Signs of Infection** – Staff will inform the manager if a child has any of the following symptoms:

* Appears unwell (feels hot or looks flushed).
* Complains of feeling ill for example cough.
* Sore throat, runny nose, muscle aches and headache.
* Diarrhoea or vomiting.
* Blood in their faeces.
* Unexplained rash.

The child should be kept apart from other children and their parent will be asked to collect them as soon as possible. On collection the parent should be encouraged to consult their GP if the child’s symptoms persist.

**Outbreak of Infection in Childcare Settings**

Parents must not bring children to any service if they are unwell and should inform us if their child is suffering from any infectious illness such as chicken pox, mumps, measles, conjunctivitis or a doubtful rash.

We will ensure that standard infection control procedures are in force at all times. Should there be an outbreak of infection staff will follow to ensure that all necessary procedures are being implemented.

**Children and staff suffering from sickness/diarrhoea should not return to JLB ELCC until they have been clear for 48 hours.**

**Article 24 (health and health services)** Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

Follow guidance from key documents –

‘Space to Grow’

‘Infection, Prevention & Control in Childcare Settings’

‘Health & Social Care standards, My support, my life’ – Providing a safe environment.

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