

Sandbox Tech Child Care

Hand Hygiene Policy

Revised October 1, 2020

Scope

Sandbox Tech Child Care is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for children, families and employees. Sandbox Tech Child Care will take every reasonable precaution to prevent the risk of communicable diseases within all our locations including a screening tool upon arrival.

This policy applies to all staff, parent's/guardians, children and any other persons engaged with Sandbox Tech Child Care.

Purpose

To ensure that staff, parents, guardians and children adhere to practicing good hand hygiene that is directive established by the WDPH and Ministry of Education Guidelines.

Procedure

Hands carry and spread germs. Touching your eyes, nose and mouth or sneezing or coughing into your hands may provide an opportunity for germs to get into your body or spread to others. By keeping your hands clean throughout the day and following good hygiene practice is an important step to avoid getting sick or spreading germs.

When a staff, child, parent, guardian or any other persons:

- Sneeze, cough, or blow their nose
 - o **Note: When coughing or sneezing try to cough or sneeze by**

covering your face (mouth and nose) either in your sleeve (not in your hands) or with a tissue. Follow the steps to hand washing or the use of sanitizer.

- Uses the washroom
- Handle garbage
- Handle raw foods
- Outdoor play
- Toileting or diaper routine
- Handle soiled laundry or dishes
- Handle soiled toys or other items
- Coming into contact with bodily fluids
- Coming in contact with soiled /mouthed items
- Gardening
- Touching commonly touched surfaces
- Travelling from one room into another and then back again

Hands should be cleaned using soap and water or hand sanitizer before and after:

- Preparing, handling, serving and eating food
- Touching a cut or open sore
- Changing diapers
- Glove use
- Before and after giving medication
- Communal sensory play activity (no sensory darning outbreak or Covid -19)

Steps to follow for cleaning hands when water is available:

- Wet hands

- Apply soap
- Lather for at least 20 seconds. Rub between fingers, back of hands, fingertips, under nails
- Rinse well under running water
- Dry hands with paper towel
- Turn taps off with paper towel, if available

Steps to follow when sink is not available (playground) and hands are not visibly soiled,

- Apply hand sanitizer (70 % -90 % alcohol - based)
 - **Note: With Written consent by parent or guardian; Hand sanitizer can only be used with child over the age of two and must always be used under adult supervision. Adults must ensure that the hand sanitizer has completely evaporated from the child's hands before the child to continue their activity.**
- Rub hands together for at least 15 seconds
- Work sanitizer between fingers, back of hands, fingertips and under nails
- Rub Hands until dry

Glove Use

Gloves will be used when it is anticipated that hands will come into contact with mucus membranes, broken skin, tissue, blood, bodily fluids, secretions, excretions, contaminated equipment or environmental surfaces. Gloves are single use only.

Gloves and Hand Hygiene Practices

Follow these guidelines before and after removing gloves. Gloves will be removed and discarded after each use.

- Wear gloves for as short as time possible
- Ensure that hands are clean and dry before and after wearing gloves
- Ensure gloves are intact, clean and dry inside.

- Gloves are single use only, and must be task specific such as diaper changes

Policy and Procedure Review

This policy and procedure will be reviewed and signed off by all staff prior to commencing employment in at Sandbox Tech Child Care.