



Hand Washing

Purpose: To prevent the spread of communicable diseases and cross contamination.

Policy:

Staff members, parents, children, visitors and volunteers are required to wash their hands with soap and water in the following situations:

- Upon arrival at Stepping Stones Child Care Centre (alternatively the use of Zero-Bac antibacterial hand gel may be used).
- After using the bathroom or assisting a child with nappy or toileting routines.
- Before handling food or cooking utensils.
- Before and after eating.
- After handling body fluids or waste, such as: blood, urine, stools, discharge from nose or eyes etc.
- After handling pets or animals.
- After coming in from outdoor play.
- After cleaning activities.
- Before and after administering medication.
- After smoking.
- Before and after using gloves and when changing gloves.
- After handling garbage.
- Upon departure from Stepping Stones Child Care Centre (alternatively the use of Zero-Bac antibacterial hand gel may be used).

Staff will educate and assist children as needed in regards to the hand washing in the situations listed above.

Stepping Stones Child Care Centre provides an antibacterial hand gel 'ZERO-BAC' that may be used to wash hands upon arrival and departure of the Centre.

The Procedures for hand washing is displayed at each hand washing station across the Centre.

Staff are advised not to use gloves instead of hand washing. Staff are to wash hands before and after wearing gloves.

Source:

Staying Healthy in Childcare, 4th Edition 2007.

This Policy links to the following CCQA Principles:

Quality Practices Guide (2005) - Principle 6.2

Developed: March 2008

Last Reviewed: 7th June 2010

To be reviewed: June 2011.