



مدرسة ديوفال  
**DEWVALE SCHOOL**  
AL QUOZ



# **INFECTION CONTROL AND PREVENTION POLICY**



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<b>Policy Name</b>	<b>Infection Control And Prevention Policy</b>	<b>Policy No.</b>	<b>DWS_PLC_008</b>
<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>April 2025</b>	<b>Date of Last Review</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> March 2025</b>
<b>Date of Next Review</b>	<b>March 2026</b>	<b>Person in-charge</b>	<b>Dr.Aafrin</b>

## Introduction

Infection control prevents or stops the spread of infections in healthcare settings. This includes an overview of how infections spread, ways to prevent the spread of infections, and more detailed recommendations by type of healthcare setting.

### 1. Break the chain of infection

- By cleaning your hands frequently
- Staying up to date on your vaccines
- Covering coughs and sneezes
- Staying home when sick
- Following the rules for standard and contact isolation
- Using personal protective equipment, the right way
- Cleaning and disinfecting the environment using approved disinfectant and using the concentration according to manufactures instructions.

### 2. Recommended precautions to avoid & control the spread of infection

The care-giver should be prepared to use the appropriate precautions and techniques prior to providing care and it includes:

- Standard precautions
- Transmission based precaution.

### 3. Standard Precautions:

Standard Precautions are the minimum infection prevention practices that apply to all patient care, regardless of suspected or confirmed infection status of the patient, in any setting where health care is delivered. Standard Precautions include:

1. Hand hygiene.
2. Use of personal protective equipment (e.g., gloves, masks, eyewear).
3. Respiratory hygiene / cough etiquette.
4. Needle stick and Sharps Injury Prevention.
5. Safe injection practice
6. Cleaning and disinfection.

### 4. Hand Hygiene

Hand hygiene is the most important measure to prevent the spread of infections among patients and Health Care Workers. It is a general term referring to any action of hand cleansing by using water and soap (anti-microbial or non-anti-microbial (or using alcohol based hand rub sanitizer). It is the single most effective way

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to prevent and control the spread of infection to others such as: Colds. Influenza. Swine flu, COVID 19 infection and others.

Clean your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water is not available, you may use a Hand Sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol till the hands become dry.

**According to WHO there are 5 moments for Hand Hygiene. They are:**

- a. Before touching a patient.
- b. Before clean/aseptic procedure.
- c. After body fluid exposure risk.
- d. After touching a patient.
- e. After touching patient surroundings.

**Other Indications for Hand Hygiene are:**

- Before handling medication.
- If moving from a contaminated body site to another body site during care of the same Student
- Before wearing and after removing of Personal Protective Equipment.
- After handling used or soiled/contaminated linens.
- Before starting and leaving the work.
- Before preparing/handling food.
- Before and after eating.
- After handling waste.
- After toileting.

## **5. Use of Personal Protective Equipment.**

Personal protective equipment (PPE) refers to wearable equipment that is designed to protect Health Care Providers from exposure to or contact with infectious agents.

These include gloves, face masks, protective eye wear, face shields, and disposable gown. Hand hygiene is always the final step after removing and disposing of PPE.

Can prevent further spread of contamination while wearing PPE by:

- Keeping hands away from face.
- Limiting surfaces touched.
- Removing PPE when leaving work areas.
- Performing hand hygiene.

## **6. Respiratory hygiene / cough etiquette.**

Respiratory hygiene is a term adopted by CDC for respiratory illnesses by droplet and airborne transmission.

**A universal “respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette” policy includes:**

- Covering the mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- Disposal of used tissues in a closed bin.
- Practicing hand hygiene often.

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- If tissue is not there, cough or sneeze on your elbow. Then practice hand hygiene.

## **7. Needle stick and Sharps Injury Prevention.**

- Safe handling of needles and other sharp devices are components of standard precautions that are implemented to prevent health care worker exposure to blood borne pathogens.
- Used needles should be discarded immediately after use and not recapped, bent, cut, removed from the syringe or tube holder, and should be placed in a leak-proof, puncture-resistant sharps container that is labelled with a biohazard label.
- Do not overfill sharps containers. Discard after 2/3 full or when contents are at the line indicated on the container

## **Safe injection practices.**

All health care personnel who give injections should strictly adhere to the CDC recommendations of safe injection practices which include:

Use of a new needle and syringe with each injection of a client.

## **8. Cleaning and disinfecting**

School management should ensure that all domestic staff are maintaining good hygienic standard of the school premises through cleansing and disinfecting frequently and daily as well as by using approved disinfectant in the concentration according to manufacture instructions.

### **Cleaning surfaces**

1. Clean all surfaces, frequently touched surfaces and floors with bleach.

Bleach can be used as a disinfectant for cleaning and disinfection (dilute one-part bleach in 50 parts water, or 1000ppm). Bleach solutions should be prepared fresh leaving the bleach solution for a contact time of at least 10 minutes is recommended.

2. Alcohol (e.g. isopropyl 70 ethyl alcohol 60 can be used to wipe down surfaces where the use of bleach is not suitable e.g. Metal).

### **High touch surfaces include:**

- Tables, doorknobs, light switches, counter tops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.

### **To make a bleach solution, mix:**

- 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach solution per gallon of water- 3.78 litres of water.

**Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol may also be used.** For electronics, such as tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, and ATM machines

**Use alcohol-based wipes or sprays containing at least 70% alcohol.** Dry surface thoroughly.

3. Keep classrooms, pantry, toilets, and bathroom clean and hygienic.

4. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, furniture, toys, commonly shared items and floor at least daily by using appropriate disinfectant.

5. If places are contaminated by respiratory secretions, vomitus or excreta, use strong absorbent disposable towels to wipe them away, then disinfect the surface and neighbouring area with appropriate disinfectant. Domestic staff should wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment if infectious disease is suspected.

### **Cleaning and disinfecting environmental surface**

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- Ensure cleaning curtains on regular basis (once in 2 weeks).
- Maintain log book of laundry.
- Ensure availability of spare curtains.

## **Teach and train domestic staff and ensure the following**

- Clean house cleaning surfaces (floor, table top) on regular basis- daily, when spill occurs and when these surfaces are visibly soiled.
- Include cleaning walls, windows and doors.
- Prepare disinfectant solution as needed and replace with fresh one frequently.
- Use one step process (from clean area to unclean areas).

Cleaners should be encouraged to practice Hand Washing techniques (Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds). If soap solution is not available, to use Hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol to clean hands till they are dry.

## **9. Transmission based precaution**

### **1. The Control Measure of Airborne Precautions**

- Place patient in the identified room to isolate from others
- Door close always
- Use of particulate respirator mask-e.g. N-95 by HCW, surgical mask by Patient, follow strict hand hygiene practice
- Environment measure - Ensure that the environmental surfaces (high touch & Low touch surface) are routinely cleaned & disinfect.

### **2. The Control Measure of Droplet Precautions**

- Place patient in the identified room to isolate from others.
- Mandatory use of surgical mask for patient & for staff.
- Use gloves when handling contaminated tissues.
- Environmental Measures: daily cleaning with approved disinfectant

### **3. The Control Measure of Contact Precautions**

- Place patient in the identified room to isolate from others
- Use Gown and gloves before contact with patient or environment of care (e.g. medical equipment, environmental surfaces).
- Environmental Measures-high touch surfaces, areas close to patient to be cleaned with approved disinfectant

The products used in Dewvale school setting for cleaning and disinfection of the floor and washrooms are Chemex Chemical and Hygiene Product and for disinfection of table tops and door knobs is Sumapine disinfectant recommended by Dubai Municipality.