

POLICY: HAND WASHING



QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY

AIM

Frequent hand washing and effective hand drying are the most effective way of preventing the spread of disease. Designated hand basins are to be kept for hand washing only and should not be used for food and drink preparation or other cleaning tasks. At Yass Montessori Pre-School staff, children and all visitors must wash hands:

- On arrival at the centre use hand sanitiser in the foyer (parents and children)
- Children to wash hands after unpacking their lunch
- Before and after eating or handling food
- Before preparing or cooking food
- Before and after toileting yourself or a child
- Before and after changing a nappy/pullup
- After cleaning up or any contact with urine, faeces, vomit, blood or other body fluids
- Before and after giving first aid
- Before and after giving medication
- After wiping a nose, yours or a child's
- After playing outside
- After patting or touching animals

STRATEGIES

Posters promoting correct hand washing procedures are placed in prominent positions above each hand basin. Hand sanitiser is made available in the Pre-School foyer. Method for hand washing:

- Use liquid soap and running water
- Rub hands vigorously while singing a rhyme (for 20 seconds)
- Wash hands all over including backs of hands, wrists, between the fingers, and under the fingernails
- Rinse hands while wet repeat singing rhyme (for 20 seconds)
- Press hands with an individual hand towel to dry

⇒ **NQS: Standard 2.1. Element 2.1.3, 2.1.4; Standard 2.2., Element 2.2.2; Standard 1.2, Element 1.1.3**

⇒ **(see Staying Healthy preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services, 5th edition, updated June 2013, section 1.3 pages 11-12)**

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