Hollinsclough C of E Academy

Use of Bleach Policy: 2017

Mission Statement

'To encourage the enthusiasm and joy of learning through a creative curriculum and a holistic approach to education that reflects Christian values and supports our community. We guarantee accessibility and availability to all.'

Developing potential

This document represents our approach to the cleaning and disinfection techniques to be used following advice from the Health Protection Agency during an outbreak of vomiting and / or diarrhoea

During outbreaks of illnesses, particularly those which involve vomiting and / or diarrhoea, effective cleaning and disinfection in addition to good hand hygiene is important to help break the chain of infection. Please see the Novovirus toolkit document for guidance on actions to take when there is an increase in the incidence of vomiting and / or diarrhoea in our school.

The Health Protection Agency or Environmental Health Department may recommend that a "deep clean" be carried out. Guidelines and advice are available from their website on how to undertake a deep clean effectively. Disinfection with chlorine releasing cleaning chemicals e.g. bleach or Milton can be undertaken.

When there is an increase in the frequency of diarrhoea and / or vomiting it is recommended that the frequency of cleaning is increased and a deep clean may also be required. Cleaning of "touch" points such as toilet flush handles and door handles, grab-rails and taps at washbasins with warm soapy water and then disinfectant should be completed as frequently as possible. It is also important to increase the frequency of toilet cleaning, e.g. clean after each break time and after a child has been sick or had diarrhoea.

To be effective cleaning and disinfection should be systematic and follow the stages below:

The 6 Stages of Cleaning

At all stages of this type of cleaning the appropriate safety clothing and hand protection should be used, including if required facial protection visor;

1. **Pre-clean** - Remove the worst of the soiling, fluid etc. Use absorbent paper towels or disposable cloths.
2. **Main Clean** - Hand hot water, detergent and physical agitation. Pay attention to awkward places. Dispose of cloths.
3. **Rinse** - Remove all traces of detergent and manually dry/leave to dry.
4. **Disinfection** - Item or can be disinfected with chlorine releasing cleaning chemical (sodium hypochlorite) at 1000ppm (see dilution table below). Use disposable wipes, e.g. paper towels, use and discard the wipe without returning it to the jug/bowl.
   Never use bleach/Milton disinfectants (sodium hypochlorite) directly on to urine spillage or with any other chemical
4. **Final Rinse** – Use clean cloth and clean, hand hot water.
6. **Drying** – Air drying is most effective, if cloths are used they should be disposable.

Disinfection

Chlorine releasing cleaning chemicals (e.g. bleach & Milton) are very effective against bacteria and viruses and are recommended for use during an outbreak however this type of chemical is **not recommended** for general cleaning when there is no outbreak.

Points to remember when using chlorine releasing cleaning chemicals:

- **Do not mix chlorine releasing cleaning chemicals with any other chemical.**
- Always use freshly prepared solutions of the chemical in clean containers and discard the remaining solution after use.
- **Disinfectants cannot be used on fabrics or carpets as they will destroy the fabric integrity.**
- The surfaces to be disinfected must be cleaned in order to allow the chemical to be effective.
- Bleach and other chlorine based cleaning chemicals can damage the skin and mucous membranes, therefore **gloves and aprons should be worn for any contact**. If there is a risk of splashing eye protection should be worn.
- Correct hand hygiene must be used by those involved in cleaning.

- The correct dilution of chemical (see table below) and the Six Stages of Cleaning should be followed to ensure that the cleaning is effective.

Dilution rates for chlorine releasing cleaning chemicals

Where the label on the chlorine releasing cleaning chemical (e.g. bleach or Milton) gives instructions on how it should be diluted these should be followed. Below is a table that can be used as a guide for the dilution of domestic bleach and other chlorine releasing cleaning chemical.

Guidance on the use of;	**To make a dilution of 10,000 ppm for decontamination of spillages of blood and/or body fluids.**	**To make a dilution of 1,000 ppm for disinfection of surfaces during outbreaks.**
Chlorine releasing cleaning chemical e.g. Domestos or other household bleach	**Dilute 1 part bleach to 10 parts water** (add solution to water not vice versa) (500ml of bleach to 5 litres of water)	**Dilute 1 part bleach to 100 parts water** (add solution to water not vice versa) (50ml bleach to 5 litres water)

Implementation of this procedure / policy

Our school will manage implementation of this procedure / policy with the support and guidance of the HPA, HSE and other official bodies as and when required / directed.

General

This procedure / policy and its guidance will always reflect the present and future needs of all stakeholders and to support this we are always open to suggestions for changes and alterations of and to any specific individual provision / requirement to ensure full access to all.

Signed...

Designation: Chair of Governors **Date...** December 2016

Signed...

Designation: Headteacher **Date...** December 2016

This procedure / policy is to be reviewed by Governors during Autumn Term 2019