

PELORUS COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

Hand Washing Procedures

Education [Early Childhood Services] Regulations 2008 (and it's Amendments): Regulation 45, 46

Licensing Criteria for Early Childhood Education and Care Centres 2008: Criterion PF20, PF21, HS30

Rational:

The Pelorus Community Preschool will provide an environment for children in which their health is promoted and they are kept safe from harm by ensuring that children understand the need for cleanliness at specific times and become competent and capable of cleaning their own hands. (Babies hands will be washed by staff, using a face cloth.)

Effective hand washing and drying routines are a primary means of reducing infections in staff and students. Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their own hand washing and drying but to do so they need a supportive environment.

Times when hands should be washed:

- After toileting or changing nappies
- After blowing their nose or helping another child to blow their nose
- After coughing or sneezing (when the hands have been used to cover the mouth or nose – NB: we encourage the elbow technique instead)
- After touching pets and other animals
- After playing outside or messy play
- After handling rubbish
- Prior to and after handling food or eating
- Before and after providing first aid
- After providing care to an ill person
- After handling bed linen or cleaning equipment
- After handling blood or body fluids

The preschool has for the purpose of hand washing

- Liquid soap in dispensers

- Warm water available at all times
- Paper towels for drying hands

Recommended technique for good hand hygiene practice

- Wet hands, preferably with warm water and apply liquid soap
- Rub hands vigorously together and rub all areas
- Wash for 20 seconds (about the same time as it takes to sing Happy Birthday)
- Rinse well and dry hands thoroughly, the following examples are considered thorough:
 - **20** seconds by paper towel (2 towels 10 seconds on each towel)
 - **20** seconds by clean roller towel

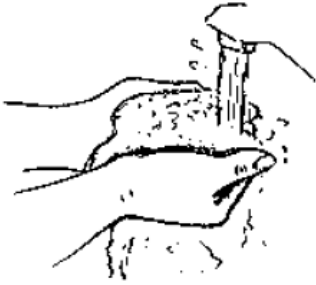
Licensing Criteria

- Toilet and associated handwashing/drying facilities intended for use by children are:
 - designed and located to allow children capable of independent toileting to access them safely without adult help; and
 - adequately separated from areas of the service used for play or food preparation to prevent the spread of infection. (PF20)
- There is means of drying hands for children and adults that prevents the spread of infection. (PF21)
- Children are washed when they are soiled or pose a health risk to themselves or others. (HS30)

Adopted: October 2009
Review Date: April 2011
Reviewed: May 2011
Review Date: May 2013
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Review Date: May 2015
Reviewed: May 2015
Review Date: May 2017

Hand Hygiene with Soap and Water

**1. Remove jewelry.
Wet hands with warm
water**



2. Add soap to palms



**3. Rub hands
together to create a
lather**



**4. Cover all surfaces of
the hands and fingers**



**5. Clean knuckles,
back of hands and
fingers**



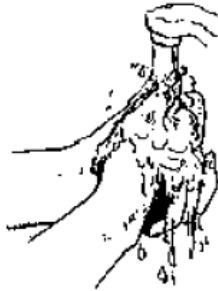
**6. Clean the space
between the thumb
and index finger**



**7. Work the finger tips
into the palms to
clean under the nails**



**8. Rinse well under
warm running water**



**9. Dry with a single-
use towel and then
use towel to turn off
the tap**



Minimum wash time 10-20 seconds.