Hygiene Policy

In order to prevent the spread of germs and illnesses it is important that hygiene procedures are in place and strictly adhered to.   
As per the HPA - Health Protection Agency guidelines we will not care for a child who has had an upset stomach in the last 48 hours. So we can prevent the spread of infection we do ask to be notified of any illnesses your child may have suffered within the last 24-hour period before attending our setting   
We will follow strict hygiene routines in the kitchen, ensuring that the fridge is at the correct temperature and that food is stored correctly in it. All staff that handle food hold a valid food hygiene certificate.   
The toys and equipment in the setting are always in a suitable state of cleanliness. Hands will be washed with soap after using the toilet, touching animals or messy play etc and before having anything to eat or drink. We will provide each child with an individual cloth to dry their hands.   
We are happy to help children to clean their teeth after meals if you provide us with a toothbrush and paste.   
Tissues will always be at hand and children will be encouraged to blow and wipe their noses when necessary. Soiled tissues will be disposed of hygienically. Children will be encouraged to cover their mouths when coughing.   
Any spills of blood, vomit or excrement will be cleaned up with antibacterial cleaner.   
Floors and other infected areas will be disinfected using an anti-bacterial bleach or cleaner, according to the manufacturer's instructions. Soiled pants and clothing will be placed in a bag to be taken home unless we have permission to discard. All surfaces will be wiped daily with an appropriate cleaning agent.   
We will always wash our hands thoroughly before handling food and after using the toilet and changing nappies and ask the children even those in nappies to wash theirs. Changing mats are disinfected after each use.   
Different cleaning cloths will be used for kitchen and bathroom areas. Raw food and cooked food will be prepared in separate places. Waste will be disposed of correctly in a bin, and after using it we will wash our hands thoroughly.   
Any food or drink that needs heating will be heated immediately prior to serving and not left standing. Children will not be offered leftovers. Cracked or chipped cups, beakers and plates etc will not be used

**Extra Hygiene**

In light of COVID-19 I will I will take the following measures to help prevent germs spreading:

* Carry tissues with me and use them to catch coughs or sneezes. I will bin the tissue, and wash my hands, or use an alcohol-based sanitiser gel.
* Wash my hands and the children’s hands more frequently for at least 20 seconds with soap and water. Use an alcohol-based sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
* Avoid touching my eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
* Avoid close contact with people who are unwell (please see my sickness policy)

I ensure all adults and children in my setting are aware of good hand-washing procedures and will be support them to wash their hands in line with Government guidance.

I ensure there is a supply of tissues available for children and help children to learn how to catch their sneezes and coughs.

Personal protective equipment will be used in the following situations if a child becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus while in the setting (in accordance with relevant Government guidance).

Any staff and children that go across sessions will change clothes and wash hands (this is currently only on a Friday)