Hygiene Policy – Blaendulais Primary school.

In schools, where children are in close and frequent physical contact with each other, infectious diseases can spread rapidly. Blaendulais Primary school will seek to help protect children and staff from infections and reduce the risk of outbreaks by ensuring; Rigorous hygiene procedures are in place to ensure information is provided to parents and staff on keeping infectious children and staff away from school to prevent contamination.

2. Aim

To establish and maintain life-long healthy lifestyles and good hygiene habits and to provide a clean and hygienic school environment to promote the welfare of children and staff.

3. Objectives

* To ensure all aspects of good hygiene are encouraged among pupils, staff and visitors.
* To provide consistent messages in school about good hygiene within and outside of the taught curriculum (posters, notes on newsletters.
* To increase pupils’ knowledge, understanding, experience and attitudes towards good hygiene.
* To ensure the provision for hygiene in school reflects the cultural and medical needs of all pupils.
* To ensure the school environment is a hygienic place to learn and work in.

4. Curriculum

Effective hygiene education will enable children at Blaendulais to make responsible informed choices. This will not be delivered in isolation and reflect the approach within the Personal and Social Education (PSE) Framework for Wales, which underpins this Policy. Largely, education about Hygiene will take place in PSE and Food Technology lessons, although some aspects will be addressed within daily routines and on an incidental basis. Staff will raise children’s awareness of good hygiene practices by teaching them about the importance of;

* Hand washing
* Nose wiping and disposal of tissues
* The spread of infection through coughing and sneezing.
* Food and kitchen hygiene
* Puberty and growing up

Delivery at Blaendulais Primary school, pupils will learn about hygiene using approaches that provide:

* Consistent accurate information presented simply and clearly
* Informative and accessible reading material
* Access to peers and credible adult experts, in addition to teachers.
* Stimulating and enjoyable tasks

Use of outside Speakers

Where people from external agencies are invited into the school they are ’visitors’ and will be seen as contributing to the school’s agreed programme and not replacing it. Visitors delivering any aspects of Hygiene will be involved in the planning of the full programme and contribute their specific expertise where required e.g. School nurse, Healthy Schools.

5. Environment

To assist the school in achieving statutory compliance the head teacher will ensure that:

* the school premises (furniture, furnishings and fittings) are clean and safe before the children arrive each day
* a documented programme of cleaning for the entire school is in place
* Cleaning staff are appropriately trained
* All cleaning equipment and all cleaning chemicals and equipment are stored safely in a lockable cupboard
* Procedures for removing spills of blood and body fluids are in place
* Include hygiene procedures in staff induction and training
* Waste is removed promptly and is not allowed to accumulate
* Well-maintained toilet facilities are provided where pupils feel comfortable and safe and have open access to throughout the school day
* Provision for suitable, sufficient and readily accessible hand washing and drying facilities for staff and children are available.
* A maintenance contract is in place for all water coolers in the school
* use notices, posters and staff meetings to promote good hygiene practices
* A list of notifiable diseases is kept and staff are familiar with local guidelines and procedures for notifying outbreaks of disease
* Display a list of addresses and telephone numbers for key health contacts including your nearest Accident and Emergency Department, Health Centre, a full range of expertise and assistance is available.

5.1 Food and Kitchen hygiene

Blaendulais Primary school’s food preparation areas conform to environmental health and food safety regulations. The school will ensure that all staff responsible for food preparation and handling undertake the Basic Food Hygiene Certificate level 5, and that this is updated as required. Staff responsible for preparing and handling food in school are aware of, and comply with regulations relating to food safety and hygiene.

Dietary Requirements

Current information about individual children’s dietary needs are recorded and communicated verbally to all staff and volunteers. Staff are required to show sensitivity in providing for children’s diets and allergies. Staff do not use a child’s diet or allergy as a label for the child or make a child feel singled out because of his/her diet or allergy. Children are discouraged from sharing and swapping their food with one another in order to protect those with food allergies.

5.2 Toilets and Toileting.

To ensure staff are aware of and are able to carry out effective hygiene practices, the head teacher will ensure that;

* All toilets are open and available to pupils throughout the school day
* The toilet and washroom facilities are suitable for the range of users, including pupils with disabilities and special needs and cater for the needs of all pupils from ethnic and religious communities
* The toilet facilities provide appropriate privacy for users
* All toilet areas have access to supplies of warm and cold water, liquid soap, hand drying facilities and toilet tissue in dispensers, provided at a convenient height, at all times
* Provision of sanitary disposal units in all female cubicles (for girls aged eight and over)
* Ensure drinking water supplies are available in appropriate locations, and not in toilet areas.
* Supervision of the toilets at break and lunchtimes is undertaken by Staff, if required.

6. Illness absence

Parents of pupils at Blaendulais Primary are made aware that any child who is acutely unwell should be kept away from school until they are well enough to benefit and participate. In addition, even if they appear well, it is necessary to keep children who have certain infectious diseases away from school for an appropriate period, to help prevent others from becoming infected.

Parents/carers will be asked to keep their children at home if they have any infection, and to inform the school as to the nature of the infection, so that the school can inform other parents/carers if necessary, and to make careful observations of any child who seems unwell. If a child is issued prescribed medication, procedures outlined in the school’s Administering Medicines Policy will be followed.

Head lice - Parents/carers should notify the school if they discover that their child has head lice. In this instance the school will issue appropriate guidance to parents in the form of a letter / leaflet, advising of necessary precautions and advice for treatment.

7. Immunisations

Immunisation status is checked at school entry and at the time of any vaccination. Parents are encouraged to have their child immunised and any immunisation missed or further catch-up doses organised through the child’s GP.

8. Child Protection

It may be necessary to invoke local Child Protection Procedures if a pupil’s safety or welfare (or that of another pupil) is under threat. It would be only be in exceptional circumstances, e.g where there is a clear child protection issue, that sensitive information is passed on against a pupil’s wishes, and even then the school will inform the pupil first and endeavour to explain why this needs to happen. These exceptions are defined by a moral or professional duty to act:

• Where there is child protection issues.

• Where a life is in danger.

9. Confidentiality

Teachers will not promise confidentiality. The boundaries of confidentiality will be made clear to pupils. If a pupil discloses information which is sensitive, not generally known, and which the pupil asks not to be passed on, it will be discussed with a senior member of staff. The request will be honoured unless this is unavoidable in order for teachers to fulfil their professional responsibilities in relation to:

* Child Protection
* Co-operation with a police investigation
* Referral to external service

Every effort will be made to secure the pupils agreement to the way in which the school intends to use any sensitive information.

10. Community

The school will seek to:

* Raise awareness of, and promote, the activities and policy of the school around hygiene, in partnership with key community and health agencies
* Encourage good hygiene practices by providing information to parents to reinforce key messages in the home environment

11. Equality

As an employer and provider of services Blaendulais Primary school will not unlawfully discriminate on grounds of age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or on the grounds of Welsh language. All pupils, their parents and guardians, volunteers, staff and school governors are valued and will be treated with dignity and respect. We will not tolerate any form of discrimination, harassment or victimisation. We will work across our school community to ensure our commitment to equality and fairness is shared and take steps to ensure that our school is accessible, welcoming and inclusive.

Signed by-

Governor

Date -

Head teacher

Date: