

Public Health Advice for Play Facilities

To safeguard public health and prevent the spread of infectious diseases, staff of play facilities should adopt the following measures:

- Post up notice at the entrance of the facilities, reminding those having infectious diseases not to enter the facility areas. Closely monitor all incoming visitors. If visitors are suspected to have any infectious diseases, advise them not to enter the facility areas.
- Post up posters related to prevention of infectious diseases in conspicuous places to enhance the public's awareness of infectious diseases.
- Keep places, e.g. play facilities, corridors, changing rooms, toilets and water drains clean and hygienic at all times.
- Use appropriate disinfectant (e.g. 1 part of 5.25% household bleach in 99 parts of water for non-metallic surface or 70% alcohol for metallic surface) regularly to clean and disinfect all places and facilities, wait until dry and then rinse with water.
- Use absorbent disposable towels to wipe away obvious contaminants such as respiratory secretions, vomitus or excreta, then disinfect the surface and neighbouring areas with disinfectant (e.g. 1 part of 5.25% household bleach in 49 parts of water for non-metallic surface or 70% alcohol for metallic surface), leave for 15-30 minutes, and rinse with water.
- Provide hand washing facilities. For places where hand washing facility is not available, provide 70% - 80% alcohol-based hand rub, which is also effective for hand hygiene when hands are not visibly soiled.
- Maintain good indoor ventilation and make sure air conditioning systems are well-maintained.

Young children are at higher risk of being infected because they have less capacity of taking care of their own personal hygiene and they tend to have a greater intensity of direct physical contact with other children and persons. Hence, staff should pay special attention when arranging activities involving young children under 6 years old during peak season of infectious disease outbreak as advised by Centre for Health Protection:

- Adjust the size of group activities for young children such that adequate adult supervision can be given to individual child to ensure good hygiene at all times.
- Provide adequate adult and preferably parent's supervision to ensure personal hygiene of children.
- Suspend ball pools and other activities involving lots of simultaneous sharing of toys among many young children.
- Cleanse and disinfect toys and other objects shared by young children frequently, and immediately if soiled.
- Cleanse the venue thoroughly between each session of activities before another group of children comes in.

For further details on infection control measures in play facilities, please refer to Section 6.3 Child Care Facilities under Guidelines on Infection Control and Prevention in Hotel Industry at CHP website: http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/guideline_infection/346.html

Centre for Health Protection
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