

Proper Handwashing Procedure

The handwashing procedure should be completed immediately after toileting and/or diapering and before touching other objects in the room. Handwashing at the sink should be conducted individually. For example, each child should wash hands, not having to share the sink and water, and the teacher should not consider that their hands have been washed because she washes the hands of a child.

- Children and staff members should independently wash their hands using the following method:
 1. Turn on warm water (no less than 100 degrees F and no more than 120 degrees F), to a comfortable temperature.
 2. Moisten hands with water and apply liquid soap to hands.
 3. Rub hands together away from the flow of water for 20 seconds. Rub areas between fingers, around nail beds, under fingernails, jewelry, and back of hands.
 4. Rinse hands under running water (no less than 100 degrees F and no more than 120 degrees F), until they are free of soap and dirt. Leave the water running while drying hands.
 5. Dry hands with a clean, disposable paper towel.
 6. If taps do not shut off automatically, turn taps off with a disposable paper towel.
 7. If door must be opened to exit handwashing area, open door with disposable paper towel.
 8. Throw the used paper towel into a hands-free, lined trash container.

ADDITIONAL NOTE:

Same sink issue:

Because staff and children touch sink faucets, basins and handles while washing their hands, and germs from feces and urine will get on the faucets and in the sink, a separate sink should be used for diapering/toileting. If the same sink is used for both diapering/toileting and any other use the following must be done:

The sink must be sanitized by spraying the faucet, basin and handles with a bleach/water solution that is allowed to stay on the surface for at least 2 minutes before wiping or allow to air dry, after diapering/toileting and before that sink is used for any other purpose. The surface cannot be sprayed and immediately wiped.