



Toys, Play Materials and Environmental Cleaning and Disinfecting

5. COVID-19 Toys, Materials & Environmental Cleaning & Disinfecting

Date: October 5, 2020

CATEGORY: Health and Safety

REVIEWED:

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide clear direction for cleaning and disinfecting of toys and play materials, as well as environmental cleaning and disinfecting practices in EarlyON Programs; in accordance with the Ministry of Education *Operational Guidance During COVID-19 Outbreak: EarlyON Re-Opening*. This policy is designed to help reduce risk of the spread of illness, including COVID-19.

Policy

In consideration of the increased health risk associated with the spread of COVID-19, Communities Together for Children EarlyON programs will strictly adhere to environmental cleaning and disinfecting procedures, as described in this document.

Procedures

- Strict distancing/masking must be maintained as well as cleaning and disinfecting of shared spaces/equipment between **users** (pre-registration open model). Cohort Model will require distancing and masking as well as cleaning of space and equipment between each **cohort**.
- Frequently touched surfaces (high touched surfaces) must be cleaned and disinfected at least twice a day as they are most likely to become contaminated, this includes doorknobs, light switches, counter tops, chairs/table tops not used for eating, toilet handles, toilet seats (unless visibly soiled), faucet handles, hand washing sinks, bathroom counter tops and electronic devices.
- Other shared items such as iPads, attendance binders must be cleaned and disinfected between each user.
- Clean and disinfect both children and staff washrooms (including high touched surfaces within the washrooms) after each user and at the end of each day.
- Communities Together for Children EarlyON will keep a cleaning and disinfection log to track and demonstrate cleaning schedules.

Commonly used cleaners and disinfectants are effective against COVID-19:

- **Cleaners:** Break down grease and remove organic material from the surface. If the surface is visibly dirty use a cleaner first before using disinfectants. Some products contain a cleaner and disinfectant combination.
- **Disinfectants:** Have chemicals that kill most germs. Use a disinfectant after the surface has been cleaned.
 - ✓ Use only disinfectants that have a Drug Identification Number (DIN). A DIN is an 8-digit number given by Health Canada that confirms it is approved for use in Canada. Check the expiry date of products you use and always follow manufacturer's instructions.
 - ✓ Diluted bleach with a ratio of 1-part bleach to 50 parts water (1000 ppm) is an effective disinfectant if household disinfectants are not available. This solution should be made and used within a day as bleach can degrade over time when exposed to light making it less effective.

Communities Together for Children EarlyON program will use ENVIRO CARE NEUTRAL DISINFECTANT and F-29 for cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting.

Best Practice Recommendations for the use of RMC Enviro Care Neutral Disinfectant during current SARS Covid-19 Pandemic. CANADA

Directions for Use:

For use on hard non-porous surfaces such as doors, walls, metal surfaces, porcelain and plastic surfaces.

Remove gross filth and heavy soil deposits then thoroughly wet surfaces.

Minimum contact time of 10 minutes in a single application. Can be applied with a mop, sponge, cloth, coarse spray or by soaking.

The recommended use solution is prepared fresh for each use then discarded. Rinsing is not necessary (unless toys are typically "mouthed" by children).

Dilution: EZ Mix versions of Enviro Care Neutral Disinfectant are correctly dilution controlled located in the Laundry Room.

Wet Contact Time: 10 minutes

Unless the surface is a food contact surface or the surface requires no residue to function, leave the residue of the disinfectant. On food contact surfaces, or toys typically "mouthed" apply F-29 and wipe dry.

F-29

FOOD CONTACT SANITIZING PERFORMANCE: This product is an effective food contact sanitizer in 1 minute on hard, nonporous surfaces.

Wear proper PPE: Safety Glasses & Chemical Resistant Gloves.

These recommendations have been approved by RMC Regulatory and Canadian management.

Cleaning Blood/Body Spills

- It is recommended that programs put together a kit with all the required supplies, so that it is accessible in the event there is an incident.
- Use gloves for protection when cleaning blood/body spills.
- Hand washing is the most important procedure for preventing the transmission of blood borne pathogens.
- Hands must be washed immediately after unprotected exposure to blood or fluids capable of transmitting blood borne pathogens.
- Hands must be washed after removing gloves.
- Hands must be washed after a glove tear or a suspected glove leak.
- Hands must be washed after handling materials that may be contaminated with blood or body fluids capable of transmitting blood borne pathogens.

Communities Together for Children EarlyON Program Space:

- Staff are encouraged not to bring personal items into the program area or unless the item will be needed throughout the day (e.g. a water bottle, keys etc.);
- An Environmental Cleaning and Disinfecting Log (**Appendix C**) will be kept for each Communities Together for Children's EarlyON program room/area. This log will be accessible to all staff.
- All high touch areas, such as door knobs and light switches must be cleaned and disinfected in between program sessions, at a minimum twice daily and as often as necessary (e.g. when visibly dirty, or if contaminated with body fluids); High touch areas include but are not limited to:
 - ✓ shelves containing children's toys
 - ✓ tables
 - ✓ chairs
 - ✓ light switches
 - ✓ doorknobs
 - ✓ counter tops
 - ✓ sinks
 - ✓ electronic devices
 - ✓ walls within children's reach
- All low touch areas, such as walls within children's reach and floors must be cleaned and disinfected at a minimum, once daily and as often as necessary (e.g. when visibly dirty or contaminated with body fluids). Low touch areas include but are not limited to:
 - ✓ Floors
 - ✓ Walls in proximity to high touch areas
 - ✓ Door surfaces
 - ✓ Window ledges;

- All fabric items, such as pillows, stuffed animals, puppets, and dress up clothes will be removed from the play environment;
- If a blanket is brought by a participant, it should only be handled by that participant (and their child/ren). Blankets may be provided by the EarlyON program. Blankets/Sheets must be placed on the fabric or leather seating and changed between users. These must be laundered between each user and staff must ensure hand hygiene is practiced after handling these blankets and or sheets;
- Ensure that any tablets or other electronic devices shared between staff are disinfected between users;
- Any carpeting or upholstered furniture in the room must be vacuumed daily and maintained in a sanitary condition;
- Trash cans located within children's reach must have a lid;
- If storage for participant's personal items is required (e.g., strollers, diaper bags, etc.), distancing must be encouraged in these storage areas using appropriate signage. These storage areas must be cleaned and disinfected between Communities Together for Children EarlyON program sessions.

Washrooms:

- For each washroom in use for Communities Together for Children's EarlyON programs a **Washroom Environmental Cleaning and Disinfecting Log** shall be kept. This log must be accessible to all staff (e.g. posted nearby the washroom, or in a binder kept in an accessible location);
- Washrooms must be cleaned and disinfected, between users;
 - ✓ Toilet handles
 - ✓ Toilet seats
 - ✓ Faucet handles
 - ✓ Soap dispenser
 - ✓ Door locks
 - ✓ Doors
- Trash cans located within children's reach must have a lid;

Toys and Play Materials:

- A **Toy Cleaning and Disinfecting Log** will be kept. This log will be accessible to all staff (e.g. posted in the room, or in a binder kept in an accessible location);
- All toys and play materials provided by Communities Together for Children's EarlyON will be made of materials that can be cleaned and disinfected;
- All toys and play materials offered must be cleaned and disinfected between each programs if co-horted but between users if not. Hand hygiene is strongly encouraged for all participants before and after touching toys and play materials;
- Any mouthed toys must immediately be removed until cleaned and disinfected; (Neutral Disinfectant 10 min, F-29 1 min, wipe)

- If sensory materials are offered (e.g. play dough, goop etc.) these materials must be offered in individual portions for each child and disposed of immediately after use;
- Any toys that children are likely hold against their faces (e.g. binoculars, magnifying glasses) must be treated as per mouthed toys, and removed for cleaning and disinfection after each use;
- Items that cannot be easily cleaned and disinfected (e.g. books) should be used on a rotational basis only, removed after each use and stored in a sealed container for a minimum of 7 days.

Play Structures:

- A **Play Structure Cleaning and Disinfecting Log** shall be kept. This log must be accessible to all staff (e.g. posted in the relevant program area, or in a binder kept in an accessible location);
- In dedicated Communities Together for Children's EarlyON program spaces (both indoor and outdoor) if climbers and other fixed play structures are to be used, all high touch surfaces must be cleaned and disinfected prior to use each day, and between individuals (pre-registration open model) or between cohorts (cohort model). Surfaces are also to be cleaned and disinfected more frequently, as necessary (e.g. visibly dirty, or contaminated with body fluids).

Policy and Procedure Review

- Communities Together for Children EarlyON will ensure that all staff have reviewed this policy and procedure prior to commencing work in an indoor EarlyON Program and maintain a record to this effect.
- Communities Together for Children EarlyON will review this policy monthly and recognize that this policy may be amended as needed in response to continually evolving circumstances during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Communities Together for Children will confirm with the TBDSSAB that this policy/procedure is being followed by ensuring all staff has reviewed the policy and any amendments and signed an attestation.