

# MAHANA SCHOOL PROCEDURE

## PANDEMIC CLEANING

During a pandemic, extra measures need to be implemented to minimise the transmission of the virus through environmental sources, particularly hard surfaces (e.g. sinks, handles, railings, objects and counters). Transmission from hard surfaces is unlikely but influenza viruses may live up to two days on such surfaces.

Influenza viruses are inactivated by alcohol and chlorine. Environmental surfaces should be cleaned before using a disinfectant solution. Surfaces that are frequently touched with hands should be cleaned often.

When a person with suspected influenza has is identified and has left the school, it is important that their work area/office, along with any other known places they have been, are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

### Staff

Clean surfaces such as sinks, handles, railings and counters, with a detergent then a disinfectant. Flu viruses can live for up to two days on these surfaces.

Surfaces frequently touched by hands should be cleaned daily  
Ensure cups, dishes and cutlery is washed in the dishwasher. Do not share these items.

Thorough hand washing practices should be encouraged, especially prior to touching common surfaces. In the classroom situation alcohol hand gel should be used in place of hand washing.

### Employer

Make sure staff know about, and practise, extra workplace cleaning during a pandemic.

Arrange for surfaces frequently touched by hands to be cleaned daily, using a detergent then a disinfectant. The table below suggest products to use and concentrations. Make cleaning fluids, gloves and aprons easily accessible to staff.

Ensure cups, dishes and cutlery is washed in dishwasher. Do not let staff share these items

Remove all magazines and paper from reception areas and staff room. Shut library.

Ensure that cleaner is undertaking intensive workplace cleaning according to Pandemic Cleaning Policy and their own company policy.

### Suitable Cleaning Products

Disinfectants	Recommended Use	Precautions
Sodium hypochlorite:	Disinfection of material	Use in well-ventilated

1000 parts per million of available chlorine, usually achieved by a 1 in 5 dilution of hospital grade bleach	contaminated with blood and body fluids.	areas.  Protective clothing required while handling and using undiluted bleach.  Do not mix with strong acids to avoid release of chlorine gas.  Corrosive to metals.
<b>Granular chlorine:</b>  E.g Det-Sol 5000 or Diversol to be diluted as per manufacturer's instructions	May be used in place of liquid bleach, if it is available.	Same as above.
<b>Alcohol:</b>  e.g Isopropyl 70%, ethyl alcohol 60%	Smooth metal surfaces, tabletops and other surfaces on which bleach cannot be used.	Flammable and toxic. Use in well ventilated areas. Avoid inhalation.  Keep away from heat sources, electrical equipment, flames and hot surfaces.  Allow it to dry completely.

## Students

Thorough hand washing practices should be taught and encouraged, especially before touching common surfaces. Where this is not practicable (i.e in the classroom situation) children should apply alcohol hand gel and wait until it is dry before using objects (e.g computer keyboard, Alpha Smarts, shared objects such as books, sports equipment).

Do not let students share drinks, lunchboxes, food, toys (e.g tamagotchi's, other handheld games).

Playground surfaces (e.g handrails, handles, plastic tunnel etc) should be cleaned and disinfected prior to the start of school each day. Children should wash their hands or apply alcohol gel prior to using the playground, and again once they have finished playing. Drinking fountains should be cleaned and disinfected at least daily.

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