

Toy Cleaning and Disinfecting

| Toys | What is Required | When it is Required |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Toys that are mouthed | Clean and disinfect | After each mouthing |
| Toys in the infant room | Clean and disinfect | Daily or when visibly soiled |
| Toys in the toddler, preschool and other rooms | Clean and disinfect | Weekly or when visibly soiled |
| Plush/cloth toys | Launder | Weekly or when visibly soiled |
| Dress up clothes | Launder | Weekly or when visibly soiled |

When the child care centre has an outbreak, toys in all affected rooms must be cleaned and disinfected daily or when visibly soiled. An “Outbreak Situation” level of disinfectant must be used to disinfect toys during an outbreak is declared. Plush/cloth toys must be removed from use until the outbreak is declared over.

| Steps | Toy Cleaning and Disinfecting Procedure |
|---------------|---|
| Step 1 | INSPECT Inspect all toys to ensure there are no loose parts or broken/jagged edges that could pose a safety hazard |
| Step 2 | CLEAN = WASH + RINSE + DRY Wash - Toys must be washed with soap and water using a scrubbing action Rinse - Toys must be rinsed using clean potable water Dry - Allow toys to air dry or dry with disposable paper towels |
| Step 3 | DISINFECT Apply a disinfectant in one of the following ways: 1. Immersion – Fully immerse toys in the disinfectant for the required contact time 2. For large toys that cannot be immersed – Spray disinfectant directly on the surface for the required contact time or use a cloth, saturated with disinfectant, and apply directly to the surface of the toy for the required contact time |
| Step 4 | RINSE Toys must be rinsed thoroughly with clean potable water following disinfection |

For more information refer to *A Public Health Guide For Child Care Providers* at york.ca/childcareguide



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