

YOUR HANDS

Content
with WORDS

FACTSHEET



HYGIENE FOR
YOUNG
LEARNERS



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OVERVIEW

As children return to preschool and educators prepare for the 'new norm', standards of hygiene will be under close scrutiny.

We are taking time to research data for preschools and find out what is working well. It's important for our subscribers to note that data continues to unfold during the post quarantine period. Everything written in this *Factsheet* will be accurate at the time of writing - June 2020.

This Factsheet is for leaders within early childhood education and is aimed at making habits of hygiene fun and engaging for the children. One of the great things about educating preschoolers is their absorbent minds. They are open and willing to learn, especially when learning is developmentally appropriate.

We specialise in writing content for educators and solopreneurs. This document has been created solely for our subscribers. We kindly ask **that you do not share it**. If you know anyone who would benefit from the content, please ask them to purchase it online.

The information within this *Factsheet* is subject to the recommended guidelines and procedures of each country.

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USEFUL REMINDERS



- ★ Think through every level of your existing environment, through the lens of the new standards of hygiene.
- ★ Consider how the physical environment will be shaped and designed to encourage new behaviours.
- ★ Be clear with your team regarding all policies and procedures with respect to hygiene in your setting.
- ★ Inform parents about these new standards of hygiene and send information home, if possible, prior to reopening so that the standards are replicated in the home environment.
- ★ Create areas for hand hygiene at a convenient height for the children in your setting, providing cues /signs is helpful.
- ★ In order to keep everyone safe and as mindsets are changing, It is very important that everyone is in agreement, with all new policies and processes.

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THE CHILDREN



Connecting with children calmly and intentionally will be important. Aim to reduce any anxiety in the classroom. Fun hygiene routines will help with this.

- ★ Be proactive with your language. e.g. smile and say something like “Oops lets remember to keep those busy hands sparkling clean”; rather than “wash your hands!”
- ★ Use simple explanations.
- ★ Use books, rhymes, songs, video about preventing the spread of germs.
- ★ Remember there's no need to overdo it. Rather, normalise routines around hand hygiene.
- ★ Do remind the children, until the process is in place. Remember, children are likely to remind each other!
- ★ Be clear with children (and parents) about what to do if anyone is unwell.

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5 HELPFUL TIPS



Make soap with the children. This is a great way to involve them in the process of regular hygiene practices.

Continue to build communication and language skills as the 'new norm' evolves. Use language as a proactive tool for success.

Remember to check in with the children's physical, and emotional well-being.

Review and observe the physical environment daily and document what is working effectively and what is not.

Check the hand hygiene of everyone in the environment. A community approach will be essential to overall health and safety.



Part of the mission of *Content With Words* is to support leaders within early childhood education. We understand that you wish to perform successfully not just for yourself, but also for anyone within your professional community that relies on you.

As you get ready to reopen successfully, we offer support in terms of preparing documents. In addition, our specialist educator, Ms Mezu, provides coaching sessions to allow for effective planning and preparation as you lead, which is key for high performance.

You are welcome to email us, using the contact details below, for a one-to-one coaching session.

Further details will be provided on receipt of your email. Please subscribe - [Content With Words](#).

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