

### **3z. CLEANING, SANITIZING, AND DISINFECTING [1304.53(a)(10)(viii)]**

**Policy:** To ensure indoor premises are cleaned daily and sanitized as required.

**Procedures:** Shasta Head Start shall follow the cleaning and sanitizing guidelines set forth as described in Managing Infectious Disease in Child Care and Schools (see adjacent Cleaning and Sanitizing Chart for guidance). Sanitizing solutions shall always be stored far out of the reach of children. All heavy cleaning shall take place when children are not present.

**Cleaning:** Cleaning gets rid of dirt you can see. Routine cleaning with soap and water is most useful method for removing germs from surfaces. Cleaning can reduce the number of germs on surfaces, but some items need to then be sanitized or disinfected which is different than cleaning.

**Sanitizing and Disinfecting:** Sanitizing reduces the amount of germs to a safe level, while disinfection kills virtually 100% of germs, on surfaces that are left after cleaning by using chemicals such as bleach or quaternary solutions that are stronger than soap and water. Items that are washed in a high temperature dish washer or hot cycle of a washing machine do not need to be sanitized because the hot water kills most germs.

**Sanitizing Solutions:** Centers shall use either quaternary or bleach to sanitize centers. For use on food contact surfaces and in common areas (tables and other surface areas).

**Quaternary sanitizing solution:** Mix per directions on product label.

**Bleach sanitizing solution:** Mix 1 tbs. household liquid bleach in one gallon of tap water (needs to be mixed daily).

**Disinfecting Solutions:** Centers shall use either quaternary or bleach to disinfect centers. For use in bathroom areas and any surface that is contaminated with body fluids (saliva, mucus, vomit, urine, stool, blood.)

**Quaternary disinfecting solution:** Mix per directions on product label.

**Bleach disinfecting solution:** Mix  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup household liquid bleach in one gallon of tap water (needs to be mixed daily).

**Quaternary and bleach shall never be used together, as hazardous vapors may be emitted by doing so.**

**Cleaning Toys:** All toys should be cleaned at least once per week. If a toy touches a child's mouth, it should be washed prior to reintroducing the toy to children.

**Hard Plastic Toys:** If possible, run the toy through the dishwasher. If not, use hot soapy water, rinse in hot water and air dry. Toys that are likely to be mouthing by children should not be sprayed with sanitizing solutions, as trace amounts of the chemical remain on the toy. Toys that

are not likely to be mouthed, such as riding toys can be sprayed with sanitizing solution and left to air dry.

**Fabric Toys:** Fabric toys should be laundered at least once weekly. If a child soils a fabric toy or is observed to place it to their mouth, remove the toy until laundered.

**Cleaning Surfaces:** After tables, bookshelves, or other surfaces are cleaned, spray surface with sanitizing solution and leave to air dry.

**Classroom Handwashing Sinks:** Sinks are never to be used for food preparation or bathing.