



Shigellosis Prevention

In Early Care and Education Facilities

Inform

Inform all early care and education staff about:

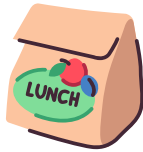
- the symptoms of shigellosis
- how germs spread from person to person
- what to do during an outbreak
- control measures to be followed such as regular handwashing and good diapering practices

Promote frequent handwashing

Schedule and supervise handwashing of all children during the following times:



Entering and leaving facility



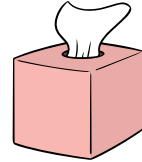
Before eating snacks or meals



After using the bathroom



After diaper changes



After blowing their nose



After playing outdoors

For Staff:

Promote staff handwashing after helping children with these activities where germs are likely to spread. This includes before and after caring for a child who is sick with diarrhea and after touching items or surfaces touched by the child.

Practice and promote cleanliness

Healthy diapering practices



- Have separate diaper-changing areas.
- Ensure children wear clothing over their diapers.
- Wash your and the child's hands after each diaper change.
- Ideally, people who change diapers should not prepare or serve food.

Clean and disinfect toys



- Clean and disinfect toys, surfaces, and other commonly used items regularly.
- If a shigellosis outbreak occurs, clean and disinfect items more often.
- Consider creating a schedule that helps staff routinely clean and disinfect surfaces and objects.

Enforce rules for water play



- Don't use inflatable or plastic kiddie pools, water slides, or water tables/basins.
- Don't allow children in the water until two weeks after their diarrhea has completely stopped.
- Shower with soap before getting in the water.
- Do diaper checks every hour away from water.
- Have frequent bathroom breaks.
- Tell children not to swallow water.

Notify the local health department

- Anyone with shigellosis should stay home while sick.
- Shigellosis is a reportable condition; notify your local health department if anyone at your facility is diagnosed with shigellosis.
- Children under five should receive approval from the local health department before returning to childcare or school.



MORE INFO 