

Toy Washing Policy

Performance Standard: 1302.47(2)(i)

Toys will be maintained in a sanitary manner to enhance the health and safety of the children participating in Doña Ana County Head Start. The following procedure will be followed in DACHS classrooms to reduce exposure to germs:

1. Washable toys will be selected for use in the classrooms.
2. Toys that go into the mouth or are visibly dirty will be put in a "dirty toy basket" and cleaned and disinfected before being used again.
3. Toys will be sanitized between classes and thoroughly cleaned and sanitized weekly.

Daily Procedure:

1. Use a spray gun to spray toys with an alcohol and water solution (70% alcohol, 30% water).

Weekly Procedure:

1. Plastic, wooden or metal toys should be washed by hand. This should be done with hot water and soap/detergent. Rinse well.
2. Cloth or stuffed toys should be washed in a washing machine (if machine washable). Dry the toys completely in a hot dryer, or air dry overnight. Do not return toys to play area until completely dry.
3. Any toys that are dishwasher safe may be washed in a dishwasher.
4. Toys that must be disinfected should be dipped into a solution of $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of chlorine per 1 gallon of water. Allow toys to be air dried completely.