

IPC Bulletin for Care Homes

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Produced by an NHS Community Infection Prevention and Control Team based in North Yorkshire for distribution to subscribers.

Spring clean

As spring arrives it is the perfect time to 'Spring clean' your Care Home. A time to shake off the dust and clear the clutter. A clean environment plays an important role in infection prevention and control, helping you protect your residents, staff, and visitors.

A deep clean will remove the dirt, dust and microorganisms that have accumulated over the winter months, reducing the risk of infection from environmental contamination.

Take this opportunity to declutter your Care Home and remove any unused or worn equipment to create well organised spaces that are easy to keep clean.



Spring cleaning ideas with available resources

- Consider hiring a skip for a 'Dump the junk' day and dispose of any rusty unusable equipment or worn out furniture that cannot be fixed. The surfaces of furniture and fittings need to be easy to wipe to ensure that effective cleaning can take place.
- Check that all items in your Care Home are on a cleaning schedule. This ensures that all items are cleaned throughout the year not just in Springtime. [Infection Prevention and Control Cleaning schedule and record templates for Care Home settings - Infection Prevention Control](#)
- Organise and clean your storage cupboards, ensuring any items that have expiry dates are still in date. Don't forget to check that your cleaning products are still within their expiry date!
- Ensure any storage boxes on the floor are wipeable and can be moved for effective floor cleaning.
- Steam clean carpets and upholstery and ensure this is recorded on the cleaning records.
- Review your personal protective equipment supplies of gloves, apron, facemasks and visors, ensuring that they are stored in a moist free environment away from direct sunlight and are within their expiry date.
- Check that your Infection Prevention Control Policies are available so that care home staff know how to keep the care home clean: [Safe management of the care environment Policy for Care Home settings - Infection Prevention Control](#) and [Safe management of blood and body fluid spillages Policy for Care Home settings - Infection Prevention Control](#)
- Finally undertake a care environment compliance audit to evidence the amazing spring clean that your Team have done: [Safe management of the care environment compliance: Monthly Audit Tool for Care Homes - Infection Prevention Control](#)

Upcoming events:

- **IPC training event** for Care Homes and Domiciliary Care:
16th November, 2026 - Book now to reserve your place.
www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk/events/
- [QICN Adult Social Care Nursing Network](#) 24th March, 2026

Visit our website to find lots of IPC resources, many of which are free to download.

www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk

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