

Overview

This standard outlines the requirements when supporting clean environments in health and social care settings. This includes monitoring the cleanliness of environments and ensuring rooms, work areas and surfaces are clean.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. identify and agree the roles and responsibilities of yourself and others to support clean environments
2. work in partnership with all involved to agree how and when environments will be cleaned and monitored
3. carry out the agreed monitoring to maintain clean environments
4. ensure infection prevention and control methods and personal protective equipment are used
5. gather required cleaning resources and equipment
6. carry out the agreed cleaning activities in line with workplace requirements
7. ensure used cleaning resources and equipment are disposed of, or cleaned and stored
8. ensure cleaning resources and equipment are restocked and left ready for next use
9. contribute to records and reports required to support clean environments
10. reflect on how you carried out your roles and responsibilities to support clean environments, with feedback from others

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the reasons why environments need to be cleaned
2. how to access and review information on how and when environments will be cleaned and monitored
3. types of resources and equipment used to clean environments
4. how to prepare and check that cleaning resources and equipment are safe and ready for use
5. the importance of following instructions for preparation, use and storage of cleaning resources and equipment, and the potential risks if not followed
6. types of cleaning resources and equipment to be used on different surfaces, furnishings or fittings
7. types of sustainable practices that can be used when cleaning environments
8. why some environments require specialist cleaning
9. potential sources of infection from environments and how to minimise the risk
10. the infection prevention and control methods and personal protective equipment used during cleaning of environments
11. how and when hazard warning signs should be used
12. how to prevent and minimise risks to others whilst cleaning is being carried out
13. how to report faults or hazards with environments, cleaning resources or equipment and the potential risks if not reported
14. the records or reports required for supporting clean environments
15. types of digital tools and devices that can support clean environments
16. the relevant legal requirements, standards of practice, frameworks and guidance for supporting clean environments
17. how to respond to issues and concerns that may occur with the environment, resources and equipment
18. how your personal experiences and unconscious bias may impact when supporting clean environments, and how to address this
19. the role of supervision, reflective practice and learning and development when supporting clean environments

Glossary

The glossary for this National Occupational Standard is available on the Skills for Care and Development website.

HSCCLD232

Support clean environments



Developed by Skills for Care & Development

Version Number 1

Date Approved 31 Jan 2026

Indicative Review Date 31 Jan 2031

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating Organisation Skills for Care & Development

Original URN HSCCLD232

Relevant Occupations Social Care and Childrens Care

Suite Health and Social Care & Childcare Learning and Development

Keywords Environments, Health and Social Care & Children's Care Learning and Development
