

# News Release

13 October 2011

## Hospital Hand Hygiene Week 2011



Staff at Dorset County Hospital are holding a host of events to promote the importance of good cleanliness as part of Hand Hygiene Week 2011.

A range of hands-on activities and information stands in the hospital from October 17 to 21 will show visitors, patients and staff why it is so important to clean your hands effectively.

Local students have also got involved to spread the message about hand hygiene.

Students from Weymouth College will be showing people how to clean their hands properly at entrances to the hospital and beauty therapy students will be offering hand massage in Damers Restaurant. Pupils from St Nicholas and St Laurence Primary School have designed posters which will be displayed in a hospital corridor. Young patients from the hospital's Kingfisher Ward have also been involved in an art project.

Staff throughout the hospital will be wearing fancy dress with a red, black and white theme in keeping with the logo for the week – a friendly red, black and white bee which tells people that they will 'bee' asked if they have washed their hands. Departments are also running their own special games and displays, and presentations and drop-in sessions are being run to update staff on hygiene issues.

The campaign week has been co-ordinated by the hospital's Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Team.

IPC Specialist Nurse Gloria Moss said: "Everyone has really got behind this campaign and it's going to be an excellent week. Our message is clear – washing your hands properly reduces the spread of infection, prevents cross contamination, reduces outbreaks and saves lives."

**ENDS**

**PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: 11am, Tuesday 18 October, Main Entrance, North Wing reception, Dorset County Hospital. Staff in fancy dress and students from Weymouth College show visitors how to wash their hands properly.**

For more information please contact Communications Manager Susie Palmer on 01305 254683, [susie.palmer@dchft.nhs.uk](mailto:susie.palmer@dchft.nhs.uk), Mon to Fri, 9.30am to 2.30pm. Outside of these hours you can contact PA to Chief Executive/Communications Assistant Annaliese Wykes on 01305 254645, [annaliese.wykes@dchft.nhs.uk](mailto:annaliese.wykes@dchft.nhs.uk)