

Say No to Infection Fact Sheet: National colour-coding scheme



What is the National colour coding scheme?

A national colour-coding scheme for all cleaning materials and equipment is widely applied throughout healthcare organisations to reduce cross-contamination risk between different types of area, e.g. bathrooms and kitchens. For example, cloths (reusable and disposable), mops, buckets and non-disposable gloves that are colour-coded red are only used in bathroom facilities.

The colour coding is clear and permanent.

The simplicity of this scheme means staff can easily observe this safe working practice.

Please see below

Red Bathrooms, washrooms, showers, toilets, basins and bathroom floors	Blue General areas including wards, departments, offices and basins in public areas
Green Catering departments, ward kitchen areas and patient food service at ward level	Yellow Isolation areas

