

Appendix 1

Laundry Guidance for Staff Dress and Uniforms

- All components of the laundry process contribute to the removal or killing of micro-organisms on fabric.
- It is likely that dilution and flushing is the main contributor of removing organisms during this process.

Table 5	
Standard	Rationale
Wash uniforms separately from other clothes	Overloading washing machine will reduce wash efficiency Staff may wash a mixed load at a lower temperature than recommended
Wash uniforms at the hottest temperature suitable for the fabric	A ten-minute wash at 60C is sufficient to remove almost all micro-organisms. Research advises that less than 10% of Clostridium Difficile Spores will remain. However, this level of contamination is not a cause for concern MRSA is completely removed following a wash at 30C using washing detergents
After washing and drying iron uniform	Ironing is raising the temperature of the uniform fabric similar to thermal disinfection which occurs in during hospital laundry processes Maintain a professional appearance