



Nappy changing & Toileting Policy

Policy statement

No child is excluded from participating in our setting who may, for any reason, not yet be toilet trained and who may still be wearing nappies or equivalent. We work with parents towards toilet training, unless there are medical or other developmental reasons why this may not be appropriate at the time. We see toilet training as a self-care skill that children can learn with the full support and non-judgemental concern of adults.

All trained staff whether they are male or female will help with nappy changing and toileting. We won't be seen to discriminate against a member of staff due to their gender. If a parent has a concern, it will be taken into consideration.

When are children ready to potty/toilet train?

You can't force children to use a potty. If they're not ready, they won't use it. In time, they will want to use one – most children won't want to go to school in nappies any more than adults want them to.

Potty training is usually fastest if the child knows when they need a wee and can tell you in advance; if they are not at this stage then there are likely to be lots of accidents.

Try potty training when there are no great disruptions or changes to the child's or family's routine. It's important to stay consistent, so you don't confuse the child.

Procedures

- Young children from the time they show an interest in using the toilet or potty should wear 'pull ups' or other types of trainer pants as soon as they are comfortable with this and their parents agree.
- Changing areas are warm and there are safe areas to lay young children if they need to have their bottoms cleaned.
- Each young child has their own bag to hand with their nappies or 'pull ups' and changing wipes.
- Gloves are put on before changing starts and the areas are prepared. Mats are wiped down after each child is changed.
- All staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
- In addition, the person who is nappy changing ensures the child is relaxed and it is a time to promote independence in young children.
- Young children are encouraged to take an interest in using the toilet; they may just want to sit on it and talk to a friend who is also using the toilet.
- They should be encouraged to wash their hands and have soap and towels to hand. They should be allowed time for some play as they explore the water and the soap.

- Anti-bacterial hand wash liquid or soap should not be used for young children.
- The staff are gentle when changing; they avoid pulling faces and making negative comment about 'nappy contents'.
- The staff do not make inappropriate comments about young children's genitals when changing their nappies.
- Older children access the toilet when they have the need to and are encouraged to be independent.
- Nappies and 'pull ups' are disposed of hygienically. Any soil (faeces) in nappies or pullups are bagged and disposed of in the yellow bin outside. Cloth nappies, trainer pants and ordinary pants that have been wet are bagged and taken home for parents to wash. Soiled pants are thrown away because for hygiene reasons staff are not allowed to rinse them. Parents are asked if this is ok beforehand. If not, then pants are bagged and given to the parents when they pick their child up.
- If a member of staff does not feel comfortable changing a child on a changing table, then they are allowed to change them on the floor on a mat if it is safe to do so.
- Children are asked permission before being changed, and we ask that parents give permission for their children's nappies to be changed at the setting during the admission process.

Safeguarding

- Parents should make sure that children are in appropriate underwear for their ages and stages. If children turn up in soiled or wet nappies constantly, we will discuss the issue with parents, record the frequency and if it is constantly occurring then we will discuss our concerns with Social Services.
- All children are changed after their dinner/lunch/snack and before they are collected. If young children are left in wet or soiled nappies/pull ups in the setting this may constitute neglect and will be a disciplinary matter. Settings have a 'duty of care' towards children's personal needs.

WRAP Club

- If a child has an accident, the child will be encouraged to clean themselves, supervised by a member of staff. A change of clothing will be provided – if clothing is unavailable, the parent will be called to collect their child.

Policy updated on 10 September 2011

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