

3.02 Nappy Changing

Policy statement

No child is excluded from participating in our provision 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 make necessary adjustments to our bathroom provision and hygiene practice in order to accommodate children who are not yet toilet trained.

We see toilet training as a self-care skill that children have the opportunity to learn with the full support and non-judgemental concern of adults.

Procedures

- Explain to the child that you need to help them to get cleaned up.
- Changing areas are warm and there are safe areas to lay young children if they need to have their bottoms cleaned. If changing takes place on the floor a changing mat will be used.
- Each young child should provide their own bag with their nappies or 'pull ups'.
- Plastic gloves and aprons are put on before changing starts. Staff and child's hands will be washed using soap and water. All surfaces and changing mat will be disinfected to avoid cross contamination.
- The child will be involved as far as possible in their own intimate care to encourage independence.
- All staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
- Members of staff will ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children. Staff will be sensitive and responsive to the child's reaction, either verbal or non-verbal, always aiming to promote their self-image and check with them that what is happening to them is acceptable to them.
- 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.
- Staff are gentle when changing; they avoid pulling faces and making negative comment about 'nappy contents'.
- 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.
- Staff will encourage children to be confident about their own bodies.
- Any child's concerns will be reported and recorded immediately.

- If a child objects to a member of staff providing intimate care the parents or carers will be contacted to come to Pre-School and provide the care themselves if necessary.
- Soiled clothes and cloth nappies will be double wrapped and handed back to the parent or carer.
- NB 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. Staff will write in the critical care book who has changed the child and when.

Date to be reviewed – on or before end August 2024