

Promoting health and hygiene

3.4 Nappy changing

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 provide nappy changing facilities and exercise good hygiene practices 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

- Wherever possible a child's key person will undertake changing young children.
- Children are changed within sight of other staff whilst maintaining their dignity and privacy at all times.
- 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. This is provided by their parents
- Gloves and aprons are put on before changing starts and the areas are prepared. Paper towel is put down on the changing mat freshly for each child.
- All staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
- Our staff never turn their back on a child or leave them unattended whilst they are on the changing mat
- In addition, key persons ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and 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 hand driers to hand. They should be allowed time for some play as they explore the water and the soap.
- We do not use anti-bacterial hand wash liquid or soap for young children; young skin is quite delicate and anti-bacterial products kill off certain good bacteria that children need to develop their own natural resistance to infection.
- We are gentle when changing; we avoid pulling faces and making negative comments about 'nappy contents'.
- Key persons 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.
- Soiled nappies and 'pull ups' are disposed of in a nappy disposal unit.
- Soiled clothing will usually be bagged for the parent to take home.
- NB If young children are deliberately 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.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of _____ name of setting

Held on _____ (date)

Date to be reviewed _____ (date)

Signed on behalf of the management
committee

Name of signatory

Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner)
