

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health

Providers must ensure there are suitable hygienic changing facilities for changing any children who are in nappies.



6.4 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 to accommodate children who are not, yet toilet trained.

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

Procedures

- We encourage young children from two years to normally wear pull ups, or other types of trainer pants, as soon as they are comfortable with this and if their parents agree.
- Our key persons undertake changing children in their key groups; another staff who is familiar with the child will change them if the key person is absent
- Children are always changed within sight of other staff whilst maintaining their dignity and privacy.
- Our changing area is warm, with a safe area to lay children and no bright lights shining down in their eyes. Staff will talk to the children, perhaps singing to them whilst changing them.
- Each child brings their own nappies or pull ups and changing wipes. We keep spare nappies at the setting. We do not apply nappy creams.
- Our staff put on gloves before changing starts and the areas are prepared. The changing mat is cleaned after use.
- All our staff are familiar with our 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.
- We are gentle when changing; we avoid pulling faces and making negative comments about 'nappy contents'.
- We do not make inappropriate comments about children's genitals when changing their nappies.

- In addition, we ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children.
- We encourage children 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.
- We encourage children to wash their hands and have soap and paper towels to hand.
- 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.
- Older children access the toilet when they have the need to and are encouraged to be independent.
- We dispose of nappies and pull ups hygienically. The nappy or pull up is bagged and put in the bin. Cloth nappies, trainer pants and ordinary pants that have been wet or soiled are bagged for parents to take home.
- We have a 'duty of care' towards children's personal needs. If children are left in wet or soiled nappies/pull ups in the setting this may constitute neglect and will be a disciplinary matter.
- We keep a written record when we change a child and provide parents with a copy.

This policy was adopted on

13/2/2020

Date to be reviewed

Spring 2023

Signed by committee chairperson

Signed by preschool leader

