



Promoting health and hygiene - Nappy changing

Policy statement

No child is excluded from participating in our nursery who may, for any reason, not yet be toilet trained and who may still be wearing nappies or equivalent. We work with parents/carers 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

- Young children from two years should wear pants/knickers as soon as they are comfortable with this and their parents agree.
- All staff members undertake changing young children in the nursery.
- 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 basket to hand with their nappies or pants and changing wipes.
- Gloves and aprons are put on before changing starts and the areas are prepared. All staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
- All staff members 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 towels to hand. They should be allowed time for some play as they explore the water and the soap.
- Liquid soap is used in all dispensers.

- All staff members are gentle when changing; they avoid pulling faces and making negative comment about 'nappy contents'. No staff member will 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 are disposed of hygienically in a clinical waste bin. Nappies are bagged and put in the nappy bin if soiled. Ordinary pants that have been soiled are rinsed and bagged for the parent to take home. In some cases pants are disposed of within parents/carers wishes.
- NB If young children are left in wet or soiled nappies/pants in the nursery, this may constitute neglect and will be a disciplinary matter. Settings have a 'duty of care' towards children's personal needs.