



Policy Date: April 2019

Toilet Training Policy

Most children are ready to start toilet training when: -

- They can follow simple instructions.
- Can verbalise/make known their need to go to the toilet.
- Remaining dry for at least two hours at a time during the day indicates that they are getting some bladder control.
- They know what wee/poo is and shows awareness when making a wee/poo.
- They can take off their own clothes with minimal help.
- Seem uncomfortable with soiled/wet nappies.

Getting Started

- When you feel your child is ready for toilet training, we ask that you begin teaching them at home. Reason being, toilet training will be achieved quicker if the child is at home with less distractions and they have your full attention. Please keep in mind that the high activity level at the setting may distract them from responding to the urge to use the toilet here more so than at home. With this in mind, we recommend at least 3 dry days at home before coming into the setting without a nappy.
- Once they return to the setting it is not unusual for them to regress and have a few accidents, particularly once the enthusiasm of using the toilet no longer supersedes that for playing with their friends/activities. If this does happen, we will continue to encourage them to use the toilet.
- In our experience it is an easier transition to use a toilet with a trainer seat from the start rather than a potty. This means you only have to train them once rather than a two staged process.
- We request that during this time loose fitting clothing (e.g. tracksuit bottoms, leggings etc) is worn to the setting, so it is easier for them to be independent when using the toilet.
- In the past we have received requests from parents to place their child on the toilet/potty every 10 minutes. We will not do this for the following reasons: -
 1. It is not practical to do this; it is important that children experience a full bladder or bowel to understand the need to use the toilet. In the past we have found this approach detrimental to teaching children to use the toilet as they become frustrated with us taking them away from their play every 10-15 minutes to go to the toilet. Instead we will encourage them to tell us when they need to go.
 2. Also, we must consider the care of other children in our care, and their safety.
- If training is not established within 5 days in the setting (with some accidents), and we feel that the child is struggling or unhappy our recommendation will be to revert back to nappies and try again at a later date.

- We will support and work in partnership with parents/carers during this stage of your child's development and where possible offer continuity of care between home and the setting.