



Nappy changing

Policy statement

It is anticipated that by the time a child starts with us, he/she will be toilet trained. 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 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. Whilst we offer parents and children our full support, however, we must be clear that we do not undertake any specific responsibility for training children to use the toilet. This is a skill that should be taught at home first.

We make necessary adjustments to our bathroom provision and hygiene practice 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

- Key persons have a list of personalised changing times for the children in their care who are in nappies or 'pull-ups'.
- Children from two years should wear "pull ups" or other types of trainer pants as soon as they are comfortable with this and their parents agree.
- Key persons undertake changing children in their key groups. Backup key persons change them if the key person is absent.
- Changing areas are warm and there are safe areas to lay children if they need to have their bottom cleaned.
- Each child supplies their own nappies or pull ups and changing wipes in their bag.
- Staff puts on gloves and aprons 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.
- In addition, key persons ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children.
- Children are encouraged to be interested in using the toilet. They may just want to sit on it and talk to a friend who is also using the toilet.
- Children are 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.
- Anti-bacterial hand wash liquid or soap should not be used for young children. Young skin is quite delicate and antibacterial products kill off certain good bacteria that children need to develop their own natural resistance to infection.
- Key persons are gentle when changing; they avoid pulling faces and making negative comments about 'nappy contents'.
- Key persons do not make inappropriate comments about children's genitals when changing their nappies.
- Older children access the toilet when they have the need and are encouraged to be independent.
- Nappies and pull ups are disposed of hygienically. Any soil (faeces) in nappies or pull ups is flushed down the toilet and 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 rinsed and bagged for the parent 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.

Manager of the Preschool	Rebecca Mason
Signed & Dated by Manager of the Preschool	
Chair of the Preschool Management Committee	Danni Forzoni

Signed & Dated by the Chair of the Preschool Management Committee	
Frequency of policy review	Annual
Date next review due	1st January 2026