

# Sacred Roots Early Learning

## Toileting & Toilet Learning Policy

2026-2027 School Year

### Our Philosophy

Sacred Roots Early Learning is a relationship-based preschool program designed for children who are developing independence in self-care within a supportive, respectful environment. We recognize that toilet learning is a developmental process that unfolds differently for every child and family, and we approach this transition with patience, dignity, and collaboration.

### Program Scope & Licensing Context

Our preschool program is licensed and staffed to support children who are toilet independent or actively learning to use the toilet. The classroom environment and staffing structure do not allow for routine diapering or full-time toileting care. For this reason, we have established clear expectations to ensure the safety, well-being, and success of all children in our care.

### Enrollment Requirements

To enroll at Sacred Roots, children must be:

- At least 2.5 years old by the start of the school year (August)
- Fully toilet trained and independent in toileting routines

### What "Fully Toilet Trained" Means

A child is considered fully toilet trained when they:

- Recognize the need to use the toilet and communicate this to adults
- Use the toilet independently for both urination and bowel movements
- Wear underwear throughout the day (no pull-ups or diapers)
- Have accidents only rarely (occasional accidents are normal and expected)
- Can manage most aspects of toileting with minimal adult assistance

### Our Approach to Toilet Learning Support

While we require children to be toilet trained before enrollment, we understand that learning continues after the initial training period. We support children's growing independence by:

- Offering regular, scheduled bathroom breaks throughout the day
- Responding promptly when children indicate they need to use the toilet
- Providing assistance with handwashing, clothing, and cleanup as needed
- Maintaining a calm, supportive attitude toward accidents
- Protecting children's dignity and privacy during toileting
- Encouraging independence while offering help when requested
- Communicating with families about toileting successes and challenges

### Handling Accidents

We understand that occasional accidents are a normal part of early childhood. When accidents occur:

- Staff will respond with kindness and matter-of-fact support
- Children will be changed into clean, dry clothes from their extra clothing supply

- Children will be encouraged to participate in cleanup to the extent they are able
- Soiled clothing will be placed in a sealed bag and sent home
- Parents will be notified of the accident at pickup or via communication app

### **Frequent Accidents**

If a child is having frequent accidents (more than 2-3 per week consistently), this may indicate that they are not yet ready for a preschool environment. In these cases:

- Staff will document the pattern of accidents
- The Director will schedule a conference with the family
- We will work together to develop a plan, which may include temporary withdrawal to focus on toilet learning at home
- The child may return once consistent toilet independence is established

### **Naptime Considerations**

Children are expected to remain dry during naptime. We understand that nighttime and naptime dryness sometimes develops later than daytime control. However, for the health and comfort of all children:

- Children must use the toilet immediately before rest time
- Pull-ups or diapers are not permitted during naptime
- If naptime accidents become a pattern, we will work with families to address this need

### **What Families Need to Provide**

To support your child's toileting success, please provide:

- At least 2-3 complete changes of clothing (shirt, pants, underwear, socks) kept at school in a labeled bag
- Easy-to-manage clothing (elastic waistbands, no complicated buttons or buckles)
- Extra underwear beyond the complete outfit changes
- Replenishment of clothing supply when items are used and sent home

### **Partnership with Families**

Successful toileting requires consistent partnership between home and school. We ask families to:

- Ensure your child is consistently toilet trained at home before enrollment begins
- Use the same language and routines at home that we use at school
- Communicate any toileting concerns or challenges promptly
- Maintain a positive, patient attitude about accidents and setbacks
- Ensure your child uses the toilet before drop-off each morning
- Work collaboratively with staff if challenges arise

### **When Enrollment May Be Delayed or Suspended**

We recognize that toilet learning is a significant developmental milestone and that some children need more time. In the interest of your child's emotional well-being and success:

- Children who are not yet toilet trained may have their enrollment start date delayed until they are ready
- Children experiencing frequent accidents may be asked to withdraw temporarily to focus on toilet learning at home
- Re-enrollment will be welcomed once toilet independence is consistently demonstrated

This policy is designed to support each child's dignity and developmental readiness while maintaining a healthy, safe environment for all children in our care.

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### **Family Acknowledgment and Signature**

I have read and understand the Toileting & Toilet Learning Policy. I confirm that my child is fully toilet trained and meets the enrollment requirements outlined in this policy. I understand that:

- My child must be able to use the toilet independently and wear underwear throughout the day
- I will provide adequate extra clothing and supplies
- Occasional accidents are normal, but frequent accidents may require temporary withdrawal
- I will partner with staff to address any toileting challenges that arise
- Pull-ups and diapers are not permitted at school, including during naptime

Child's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

\_\_\_\_\_

Second Parent/Guardian Name (if applicable):

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Second Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

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