

Promoting health and hygiene

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 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

- Key persons have a list of personalised changing times for the young children in their care who are in nappies/'pull-ups' or pants. This is shared in the rooms for all staff to access
- Wherever and whenever possible Key persons undertake changing young children in their key groups; back up key persons change them if the key person is unable to do this or is absent.
- Changing areas are warm and there are safe areas to lay young children if they need to have their bottoms cleaned. Where possible these areas are also secluded i.e. by a curtain
- Each young child has their own basket or bag to hand with their nappies 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. Changing mats and area are cleaned down between nappy changes with anti-bacterial spray. Staff wear gloves to change nappies and dispose of them after each nappy change. Staff use anti-bacterial hand gel after each nappy change.
- In addition, key persons 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.
- 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.
- Anti-bacterial hand wash liquid or soap should not be used for young children.

- Key persons are gentle when changing; they avoid pulling faces and making negative comment about 'nappy contents'.
- Key persons do not 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. Cloth nappies, trainer pants and ordinary pants that have been wet or soiled are rinsed and bagged for the parent to take home.
- NB: If young children are left in wet or soiled nappies/'pull ups' in the setting this may constitute neglect and will be a disciplinary matter. Settings have a 'duty of care' for children's personal needs
- No child will be allowed to wander around without a nappy on even if this is the policy at home to assist with toilet training.

Persons responsible for implementing this policy:

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