

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health

Providers must ensure there are suitable hygienic changing facilities for changing any children who are in nappies.

6.4 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 provide nappy changing facilities and exercise good hygiene practices 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

- Staff follow a care routine for children who are in nappies or 'pull-ups'; and change nappies according to this schedule, or more frequently where necessary.
- We encourage young children after speaking to their parents to use the potty/toilet (whichever they are comfortable with)
- Staff change children on a rota system throughout each day which ensures they change their own key child at some point, it is not possible to use the key person approach due to the vast amount of children in nappies in one big room. The key person/secondary key person approach is used in the 0-2 room where a much smaller number of babies and toddlers attend.
- Our changing area is warm, with a safe area to lay children, bigger children are changed on a mat on the floor to prevent accidents and health and safety for staff.
- Each child has their own box to hand with their nappies or pull ups, changing wipes and a barrier cream.
- Staff put on gloves and aprons before changing begins and the areas are prepared.
- All our staff are familiar with our hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
- Staff never turn their back on a child or leave them unattended whilst they are on the changing mat.
- We are gentle when changing; we avoid pulling faces and making negative comments about 'nappy contents'.
- We do not make inappropriate comments about children's genitals when changing their nappies.
- In addition, we ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children.
- We encourage children 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.

- We encourage children to wash their hands, and have soap and paper towels to hand. They should be allowed time for some play as they explore the water and the soap.
- We do not use anti-bacterial hand wash liquid or soap for young children; young skin is quite delicate and anti-bacterial products kill off certain good bacteria that children need to develop their own natural resistance to infection.
- Older children access the toilet when they have the need to and are encouraged to be independent.
- We dispose of nappies and pull ups 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 parents to take home.
- We have a 'duty of care' towards the 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].

This policy was adopted by _____ *(name of provider)*

On _____ *(date)*

Date to be reviewed _____ *(date)*

Signed on behalf of the provider _____

Name of signatory _____

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner) _____