



Nappy Changing and Toileting Policy

Aim

To work with families to support children's health, wellbeing and development through effective toilet training following advice by ERIC, The Children's Bowel and Bladder Charity

It is our intention to make our pre-school genuinely accessible to all children and to consider the individual needs of each child. We recognise that, while we prefer children to be independent in their toileting, not all children will be capable of this by the time they commence Pre-School.

Most children are ready to master toilet independence and lead in many parts of the process from around 18 months. Many children will be capable of doing most things, including wiping by themselves when they start school. Research shows it is better for children's bladder and bowel health to stop using nappies between 18 and 30 months.

To achieve this, the following working practices have been set out:

Working in partnership with parents

The parent/guardian will:

- Agree to ensure that the child is changed at the latest possible chance before being brought to the setting and clean on arrival.
- Provide the Pre-School with adequate spare nappies, nappy sacks, wipes and a change of clothing in the child's bag each day they attend.
- If a child requires nappy cream to be applied, the permission must be given via the Eylog app and cream handed to the key worker (named).
- Agree to inform the Pre-School should the child have any marks or rashes.
- Agree to a 'minimum change' policy, for instance, the setting would not change the child more frequently than if she/he was at home.
- Inform keyworker when they are starting toilet training and follow agreed approach to toilet training at home and preschool to ensure consistency and lack of confusion for the child
- Ensure the child is dressed appropriately when toilet training i.e. in clothing that is easy for the child to remove
- In the instance where the child has a long journey to school and arrives to the setting wearing a nappy (when toilet training), they must also have underwear worn over the top of the nappy for staff to remove at the beginning of the session.

The Pre-school will:

- Provide a safe, suitable and welcoming environment for nappy changing and toileting
- Agree to change the child during the session should the child soil themselves or become uncomfortably wet.
- All children should be changed as and when needed, but at least twice daily, morning and afternoon when attending a full day.

Nappy Changing and Toileting Policy

- Whenever possible, the child should be changed by their key person and NEVER by anyone who has not provided a satisfactory DBS. All nappy changes must be recorded by the member of staff responsible.
- A child should be changed immediately if they soil their nappy or it becomes uncomfortably wet.
- If a staff member chooses to wear a disposable apron and disposable gloves, these must be removed after every nappy change, disposed of and new ones worn for the next nappy change. Staff can choose not to wear disposable apron and gloves, but hands must be thoroughly washed after changing and between each nappy change.
- Used nappies are to be placed in the yellow nappy bin – soiled nappies must be placed in a nappy sack before putting in the nappy bin.
- Potties – staff are to give children privacy when using potties, by sitting them out of sight of passers-by and other children using the toilet area. After use, staff need to dispose of the waste appropriately in a toilet, potties must be cleaned with anti-bac immediately.
- The changing mat must be disinfected with anti-bacterial spray/wipes between each nappy change. Allow the mat to dry naturally or wipe it dry with a paper towel before changing the next child.
- Only nappy creams brought in by the parent/carers for their own child may be used on the child and consent must be given on Eylog. Staff must record when cream has been applied.
- Cream must be handed to a member of staff, the child's name should be clearly written on the cream and stored in the medication box during the session.
- Should a member of staff have any concerns about a child they should follow the child protection procedures.
- Soiling – if a child has a wetting accident, the soiled underwear needs to be placed in a nappy sack and then into the child's bag or on their peg immediately. Any child having a bowel movement accident needs to be cleaned appropriately, if the underwear is badly soiled, place in a nappy sack and keep in the toilet area until parent collects explain to the parent the condition of the underwear giving them the choice of keeping the underwear or allowing the staff to dispose appropriately in the yellow bin. The same procedure applies with any garments soiled with blood.
- Follow Eric for updates regarding current advice regarding toilet training
- Follow agreed approach to toilet training at home and preschool to ensure consistency and lack of confusion for the child
- If a child becomes unduly distressed by the experience of being changed, alternative arrangements will have to be discussed with parents/carers.

This policy was agreed by the staff of Playhouse Pre-School Broadwater.

Adopted on 5th October 2018 and will be reviewed annually.

Reviewed on 10th November 2025 by Z. Munford