

NAPPY CHANGING AND INTIMATE CARE

Introduction

No child is excluded from participating in our setting who may, for any reason, not yet be toilet trained and 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 have necessary changing facilities in the childcare rooms 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.

Young children will need varying levels of support to deal with their personal needs and this policy acknowledges that appropriate intimate care will be given to ensure their health, development and well-being.

Intimate Care

Intimate care may include;

- changing of nappies
- assistance of children who have wet/soiled their clothes
- administering of first aid
- provision of a specific risk assessment for those children with medical, special educational needs or disabilities
- support of young children with SEND who may need physical prompts or help
- appropriate comfort of a distressed child

We must;

- acknowledge that physical contact can be a sensitive issue for some cultural groups
- acknowledge that innocent and well-intentioned physical contact could potentially sometimes be misconstrued

Procedures

Only qualified members of staff are allowed to attend to children's intimate care needs.

- Children are changed at least every three hours – it is the responsibility of all practitioners in the room to check nappies and decide whether they need changing more frequently
- Parents complete a 'Personal/Intimate Care Agreement' for those children who are still in nappies or pull ups.
- Changing areas are warm with a changing station to lay young children down to assist nappy changing.
- For children with mobility problems who might struggle to climb onto the changing table, there is a changing bed that can be raised and lowered via foot-pump action. This is located in the disabled toilet in reception.

- The changing rooms are located within the childcare rooms. Help must be requested from a colleague if needed.
- Parents/carers are informed if their child's clothing has been changed.
- Children in nappies/pull ups have their own labelled box with their nappies/pull ups and changing wipes – all within easy reach of the changing table.
- Gloves are put on before changing starts and the areas are prepared.
- The changing mat is cleaned with antibacterial spray after each use.
- All staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies/pull ups or wet/soiled clothing.
- Staff 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 and talk to a friend who is also using the toilet.
- They must 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 comments about 'nappy contents.'
- Nappies and pull ups are disposed of hygienically.
- Older children access the toilet when they have the need to and are encouraged to be independent.
- Adults will respect children's privacy.
- Nappies and pull ups are disposed of hygienically. Nappies or pull up is bagged and put in the yellow bin. Ordinary pants that are wet are bagged and labelled for the parent to take home. If pants become heavily soiled, there may be times when it's more appropriate to put them straight into the bin.
- NB If young children are left in wet or soiled nappies/pull ups in school, this may constitute neglect and will be a disciplinary matter.
- Students are not to change children without the close supervision of a qualified member of staff.
- A distressed child will always be comforted: this may involve the use of sensitive, appropriate touch (such as an arm around the child or a hug)
- First aid will be administered in line with the First Aid Policy.

Reviewed by Hannah Hedley	Review date 15 th January 2023
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