



## Toileting and Nappy Changing Policy

### **Policy Statement**

At Rainbow Pre-school we aim to encourage independence and good hygiene in toileting. In the early days at pre-school, children will be prompted and reminded to use the toilet at regular intervals.

No child is excluded from participating in our pre-school 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 suggest that children wear suitable clothing that can quickly and easily be pulled down to enable independence with toileting (belts, braces, dungarees and clothes with zips and metal button fasteners can prove difficult for children to unfasten when speed is of the essence).

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-judgmental concern of adults.

There may be times when staff will need to provide intimate care for a child, which may include bottom wiping, nappy changing, removing clothes due to soiling or vomiting. Staff will follow the procedure below.

### **Nappy Changing Procedures**

- All practitioners have a duty of care towards the children and this includes meeting their personal hygiene needs.
- We encourage young children from two years to wear 'pull ups' or other types of trainer pants as soon as they are comfortable with this and their parents agree.
- Our toilet/changing area is warm and there are safe areas to lay young children if they need to have their bottoms cleaned.
- All efforts will be made to provide a discreet area for children to be changed in.
- Nappies are checked during each session and changed if wet or soiled. Checks and changes are recorded on charts in the room with the staff members initials and times recorded

- It is the responsibility of the parents/carers to provide spare nappies, which are kept in the child's bag on their peg. We do not provide nappies.

Children will be changed by a member of staff in a discreet way that allows the child to maintain their dignity at all times but within sight of another member of staff. N.B. This procedure has been adapted to ensure the safety of all children and members of staff, in line with our Safeguarding Children Policy.

In accordance with our Safeguarding Children Policy, students are not permitted to change a child. All staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies, pull ups or pants.

Staff will complete a 'Personal Care' form, to advise parents/carers of any personal care provided by a member of staff.

In addition, practitioners ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children.

All our 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 an adjoining toilet.

All children are encouraged to wash and dry their hands using the soap for 20 seconds and paper towels are provided.

They should be allowed time for some play as they explore the water and the soap. Antibacterial hand wash liquid or soap is not used for young children.

Practitioners are supportive when changing; firstly explaining to the child that they will be changing their nappy, pull up or pants.

Practitioners are gentle when changing; they avoid pulling faces and making negative comments about 'nappy contents'.

Practitioners do not make inappropriate comments about young children's genitals when changing their nappies.

Nappies and pull up's are disposed of hygienically; they are bagged and put in the appropriate bin. Cloth nappies, trainer pants and ordinary pants that have been wet are bagged for the parent to take home. If pants are soiled, they will be emptied down the toilet before being bagged for the parent to take home. The same process applies to wet/soiled clothes and shoes.

If a child objects to a member of staff providing intimate care their parents will be contacted.

Pre-school maintains a supply of clean clothes and some shoes for use in the event of a child requiring changing and not having a change of clothes on site.

Older children access the toilet when they have the need to and are encouraged to be independent. Should children need to be accompanied to the toilet there will always be a member of staff available.

### **Pandemic**

During periods of national Pandemic (Covid-19) tighter procedures around children's personal care may be introduced. Staff may be expected to wear full PPE provided by preschool

Rainbow Pre-school, c/o Wordsworth Primary School, Victor Street, Shirley, Southampton, SO15 5LH

Telephone (023) 80701601

including, gloves, aprons, face masks, eye protection / face shields. For further guidance please refer to the Pandemic Policy and General Risk Assessment.

This policy was adapted at a meeting held at Rainbow Pre-school in November 2021

Signed on behalf of Rainbow Pre-school:

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Policy review date: November 2022