



Promoting Health and Hygiene

Nappy Changing/Children's Bathrooms

Policy statement

Nappy changing times are key times in the day for being close and promoting security as well as for communication, exploration, and learning. Whilst attending **Cricklade Preschool Playgroup** children's privacy is maintained during nappy changing and toileting, whilst balanced with safeguarding considerations. The child's dignity and wellbeing are always of paramount importance.

We have facilities for children who are not yet toilet trained. We work with parents when the time is right to toilet train their child.

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.

Nappy Changing

- Key workers undertake the changing of young children in their key groups when possible; otherwise this is done by any member of staff.
- • Key persons are gentle when changing and avoid pulling faces and making negative comment about the nappy contents.
- • Wipes or cotton wool and water are used to clean the child. Where cultural practices involve children being washed and dried with towels, staff aim to make reasonable adjustments to achieve the desired results in consultation with the child's parents/carers. Where this is not possible it is explained to parents/carers the reasons why. The use of wipes or cotton wool and water achieves the same outcome whilst reducing the risk of cross infection from items such as towels that are not 'single use' or disposable.
- • Key persons do not make inappropriate comments about young children's genitals when changing their nappies.
- • The procedure for dealing with sore bottoms is the same as that for babies.
- • Older children use the toilet when needed and are encouraged to be independent.
- • Members of staffs do not wipe older children's bottoms unless there is a need, or unless the child has asked.
- • Key persons are responsible for changing where possible. Back-up key persons take over in the key person's absence, but where it is unavoidable that other members of staff

are brought in, they must be briefed as to their responsibilities towards designated children, so that no child is inadvertently overlooked and that all children's needs continue to be met.

- • Parents/carers are encouraged to provide enough changes of clothes for 'accidents when children are potty training.
- • If spare clothes are kept by the setting, they are 'gender neutral' i.e. neutral colours, and are clean, in good condition and are in a range of appropriate sizes.
- • 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.
- Changing areas are warm and there are safe areas to lay young children if they need to have their bottoms cleaned.
- Each young child has their own bag to hand with their nappies or 'pull ups' and changing wipes.
- Gloves are put on before changing starts and the areas are prepared. Changing mats are cleaned after every use.
- All staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
- In addition, key persons ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children.
- Nappies and 'pull ups' are disposed of hygienically. 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 bagged for the parent to take home (soiled pants will be rinsed).
- Staff never turn their backs on or leave a child unattended whilst on a changing mat.
- Anti-bacterial spray is not used where residue may have direct contact with skin.
- Anti-bacterial sprays used in nappy changing areas are not left within the reach of children.
- Natural or mechanical ventilation is used; chemical air fresheners are not used.
- All other surfaces are disinfected daily.

Children's toilets and wash basins

- Older children access the toilet when they have the need to and are encouraged to be independent.
- All children are encouraged to wash their hands after every visit to the toilet.
- Children's toilets are cleaned regularly throughout the day using disinfectant cleaning agent for the bowls (inside and out), seat and lid, and whenever visibly soiled.
- Toilet flush handles are wiped regularly throughout the day.
- Toilets not in use are checked to ensure the U-bend does not dry out and are flushed every week. Taps not in use are run for several minutes every two to three days to prevent infections such as Legionella.
- There is a toilet brush available for children's toilets
- Cubicle doors and handles are washed regularly.
- Children's hand basins are cleaned twice daily and whenever visibly soiled, inside, and out using disinfectant cleaning agent. Separate cloths are used to clean basins etc. and are not interchanged with those used for cleaning toilets.
- Mirrors and tiled splash backs are washed daily.
- Paper towels are provided.

- Bins are provided for disposal of paper towels and are emptied daily.
- All bins are lined with plastic bags.
- Staff who clean toilets are provided with rubber gloves if staff wish to use them.
- Staff changing children wear gloves and aprons as appropriate.
- Floors in children's toilets are washed at least daily or as required.
- Spills of body fluids are cleared and mopped using disinfectant.
- Mops are rinsed and wrung after use and stored upright, not stored head down in buckets.
- Mops used to clean toilets or body fluids from other areas are designated for that purpose only and kept separate from mops used for other areas. Colour coding helps keep them separate.