

**Policies and Procedures**

**Mansbridge Community Pre-School**

**4.9 Nappy changing**

**Policy statement**

No child is excluded from participating in our provision 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**

* All staff have access to a list of children in our care who are in nappies or ‘pull-ups’; and change nappies accordingly.
* We encourage young children from two years to normally wear pull ups, or other types of trainer pants, as soon as they are comfortable with this and if their parents agree.
* All staff undertake changing young children, where possible this should be the child’s Key person.
* Babies and young children are changed within sight of other staff whilst maintaining their dignity and privacy at all times. The door to the toilet area remains open unless it needs to be closed for safety/welfare in which case 2 staff are present.
* 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 named bag for their nappies or ’pull ups’ and changing wipes to be stored in.
* Gloves are put on before changing starts and the areas are prepared. Paper towel is put down on the changing mat freshly for each child. Gloves are not always required for a wet nappy where there is no risk of infection, however, gloves are always available for those staff who choose to wear them. Gloves are always work for a ‘soiled’ nappy.
* All staff are familiar with the 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.
* 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. Nappies or pull ups are bagged and put in the bin. Cloth nappies, trainer pants and ordinary pants that have been wet or soiled are bagged for parents to take home.
* We have a ‘duty of care’ towards children’s personal need. If children are left in wet or soiled nappies/pull ups in the setting this may constitute neglect and will be a disciplinary matter.

Updated 14.10.2024 by S.King