

Acorns Nursery
Nappy Changing and Toilet Training Policy



At Acorns we understand that children may be attending who are still in nappies or who are in the process of toilet training. We will support children with their personal hygiene needs and will also support both the children and parents/carers when it comes to toilet training.

Nappies:

Due to available space, nappies must be changed within the nursery room. To provide children with privacy, they will be changed by the store cupboard where the area can be cornered off. Nappies will be checked regularly and changed as needed. Children will not be left for longer than 3 hours before having their nappies changed (usually at 11:30am and 2:15pm). Parents may request specific times for children to be changed if required which we will do our best to cater for. We are able to apply creams, such as those used for nappy rash, if provided by parents/carers. Staff will use a cotton pad to apply the cream to children.

To support children's independence, they will first be asked if they need changing and if it is okay for staff to check. Children will also be encouraged to assist with tasks appropriate to their age and stage of development.

When changing nappies, staff must wear the appropriate protective clothing supplied. After changing a soiled nappy, gloves must be disposed of and new ones worn. All waste must be placed in a nappy bag before being put into the appropriate bin. The bin must then be emptied at the end of every day.

Staff must clean the changing mat before and after each use with antibacterial wipes.

Toilet Training:

When children are showing signs that they are ready to start toilet training, staff will work closely with parents/carers in order to support the child. Staff will discuss with parents/carers how they would like toilet training to be approached and a plan will be put into place which is suitable for the child, the parents/carers, and staff. Parents may choose for children to use a potty or for them to use a training seat.

We recognise that this is a big step for children and that accidents are likely to occur. Children will not be made to feel ashamed if they have an accident but will be reassured and staff will help to clean them up. When assisting children in the toilet protective clothing will be available for staff to use if they wish. We acknowledge that accidents may happen at any time, even if children have been independently using the toilet for some time. Children requiring support with toileting needs will be offered help.

If a child refuses help when using the toilet when it is needed, or if they refuse to allow a member of staff to change their nappy/clothes, parents/carers will be called and asked to come and assist their child. Under no circumstances will staff force help upon children if they refuse to let them.

Parents/carers must provide wet wipes, nappies and nappy bags for staff to use. Parents must also ensure that they provide enough changes of clothes in case of accidents. Staff will also keep some within the setting for use in emergencies.

This policy is kept up to date and reviewed annually, or as and when required.

Completed/updated by: Emma Walding

Date completed/updated: August 2023

Date to be reviewed: August 2024