

Abbeyfield Primary Academy



*The Abbeyfield Way: respectful, ambitious, happy and safe.*

# Toileting Needs Policy

Reviewed Jan 2022

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# Toileting Needs Policy

## Introduction

Starting school or nursery has always been an important and potentially challenging time for both children and the schools that admit them. It is also a time of growth and very rapid developmental change for all children. As with all developmental milestones in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), there is wide variation in the time at which children master the skills involved in being fully toilet trained. For a variety of reasons children in the EYFS may:

- be fully toilet trained across all settings
- have been fully toilet trained but regress for a little while in response to the stress and excitement of beginning Foundation Stage One or Two
- be fully toilet trained at home but prone to accidents in new settings
- be on the point of being toilet trained but require reminders and encouragement
- not be toilet trained at all but likely to respond quickly to a well-structured toilet training programme
- be fully toilet trained but have a serious disability or learning difficulties
- have delayed onset of full toilet training in line with other development delays but will probably master these skills during the Foundation Stage
- have SEND and might require help (during the Foundation Stage and beyond) with all or some aspects of personal care such as washing, dressing or toileting

Schools are not expected to toilet train pupils. Therefore, unless a child has a disability, as defined through legislation, it is expected that parents/carers will have trained their child to be clean and dry before the start in FS1.

Admitting children who are not yet toilet trained or who have continence problems into school will be the decision of the head teacher. Any dispute, or complaint, regarding admissions should be raised in the first instance with the head teacher.

As a school we will endeavour to support parents with toileting by encouraging children to use the toilets regularly and with increasing independence. We discourage the use of pull-ups for those who have already achieved bowel control. Children who are wet will be changed quickly and discreetly by a member of staff. Children will be encouraged to take responsibility for their own dressing and undressing as far as they are able.

## General principles for personal care:

- Needs vary between individuals – personal care should always be provided sensitively
- Personal care is a 'regulated activity' – all staff designated to carry out this work should have all appropriate pre-employment and vetting (including DBS checks) completed and in place
- All staff involved in personal care should receive appropriate guidance & training
- This area of work should **never** be provided by volunteers
- Where possible the pupil should consent to the care being carried out
- The pupil's preferences should be considered and their privacy, dignity and appropriate confidentiality seen as paramount
- Consider gender, religious & cultural issues
- Care should be provided at the point of need and undue delay should be avoided
- Where possible provide the pupil with supervision & guidance, intervening only where necessary or if the pupil asks for help

In the event of toileting accidents, school will undertake to:

- change a wet or soiled child as promptly as possible
- report any distress
- report any marks or rashes

Should a child in the Foundation Stage soil themselves at school, parents will be informed at the end of the school day or in exceptional circumstances immediately by telephone so that consent may be given for cleaning and changing.

Children whose parents feel on entering school that they still require nappies will be given a Personal Care Plan, detailing how changing is to be managed and how both school and parents can work towards increased toileting independence. Intimate care arrangements will be discussed with parents/carers on a regular basis and recorded on the care plan. Pupils will be supported to achieve the highest level of independence possible, according to their individual condition and abilities.

As part of the Personal Care Plan parents/carers should:

- ✓ agree to change the child at the latest possible time before coming to school
- ✓ provide spare nappies, wet wipes, nappy bags and a change of clothes
- ✓ understand and agree the procedures to be followed during changing at school
- ✓ agree to inform school should the child have any marks/rash
- ✓ agree to review the arrangements, in discussion with the school, should this be necessary
- ✓ agree to encourage the child's participation in toileting procedures wherever possible
- ✓ agree to dress the child in appropriate clothing

Children still in nappies who may require changing will need to bring in **a bag containing 2 nappies and a pack of wipes** each session, which be kept on the child's coat peg for the duration of the morning/afternoon and taken home at the end of each session.

### **Changing Procedure:**

If a child has wet themselves or needs clothes changing for any other reason (eg after water play) they should be provided with a change of clothes and encouraged to undress and dress themselves as independently as possible. A member of staff will supervise discreetly and ensure that the child is allowed privacy from others.

When a child from EYFS has soiled themselves:

- The adult who is going to change the child must inform the teacher and/or another member of staff that they are going to do this. In F2 this will normally be the responsibility of the class TA.
- If a child needs changing at lunchtime the TA on duty will make appropriate arrangements for the child to be changed at the earliest opportunity.
- Take them to Nursery toilets or Nursery changing area (for those still in nappies). In some cases, the child may need to be changed within Nursery (as detailed on their Personal Care Plan). For occasional accidents Jade/Coral class will use one side of the F2 toilet area for changing.
- Staff must wear a disposable apron, face mask, face shield and gloves.
- Soiled nappies to be put in the nappy bin provided.
- Remove apron and gloves and also dispose of them in the yellow hazard waste bag in the nappy bin.

- Soiled/wet clothes, if any, to be placed in a plastic bag and given to the child's teacher to give to the parent.
- The changing area needs to be cleared and cleaned after use with the antibacterial wipes/spray provided.
- Remember to wash your hands with soap and hot water and to dry hands.

***Remember: changing time can be a positive learning time and an opportunity to promote independence and self-worth.***

- ✓ Speak to the child personally by name so that s/he is aware of being the focus of the activity
- ✓ Give explanations of what is happening in a straightforward and reassuring way
- ✓ Enable the child to be prepared for and to anticipate events while demonstrating respect for his/her body e.g. by giving them a strong sensory clue such as using wipes to signal an intention to wash or change.

### **What to do if a child become distressed during the changing process**

- Talk the child through each step and reassure them that they will feel much better when they are clean.
- If the distress is such that it is difficult to continue then stop the changing process.
- If this results in a hygiene issue then parents should be contacted to explain the situation and an agreed course of action established.
- In any event a record must be made of distress, whether or not the changing was completed, and parents informed as soon as possible.
- If there is any concern re child protection issues these should be dealt with in accordance with school policy.

### **What to do if any marks or redness are seen**

- If marks or redness are seen then this should be recorded and reported to the child's parents as soon as possible. If there are any child protection concerns these should be dealt with in accordance with school policy.

***Note:*** these guidelines are for children who are too young to clean themselves effectively or who have some developmental difficulties. These guidelines are not for occasions where the incident is a 'one-off accident' and the child is sufficiently independent to clean themselves. However, the same levels of dignity, privacy and kindness should be extended. In these incidents soiled underwear should be double wrapped and placed in the child's school bag for washing at home and parents informed.

### **Child Protection**

All staff are DBS checked to ensure children's safety therefore under normal circumstances a second member of staff does not need to be present to change a child.

- All staff involved with intimate care will receive specific induction from the school on these procedures and protocols.
- Parents must understand that changing a child's nappy will involve intimate handling
- No volunteers or students will change a child.
- All staff are encouraged to be vigilant for any signs or symptoms of improper practice.

Safeguarding Procedures and Multi-Agency Protection procedures will be adhered to. Where parents do not co-operate with intimate care agreements concerns should be raised with the parents in the first instance. A meeting may be called that could possibly include the health visitor and head teacher to identify the areas of concern and how all present can address them. If these concerns continue there should be discussions with the school's safeguarding co-ordinator about the appropriate action to take to safeguard the welfare of the child.

## **Resources**

In the Nurse's changing area:

- ✓ Changing mat
- ✓ Yellow hazard waste bin

Separate supplies to be kept within each unit:

- ✓ Disposable aprons
- ✓ Disposable gloves
- ✓ Disinfectant spray/wipes
- ✓ Spare wipes
- ✓ Spare clothes
- ✓ Bags for soiled clothes

## **Related School Policies**

- Accessibility Policy
- Admissions Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Inclusion Policy
- SEN Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Early Years Policy

**Personal Care Plan**

Pupil's name	DOB	School
Reasons for the plan		
Details of assistance required:		
What?	When?	
Lead Professional who has responsibility for Intimate care in school <i>e.g. Headteacher, SENCO.</i>	Who will liaise with parents and how often? <i>e.g. Home / school diary</i> <i>Phone</i>	
<b>Facilities and equipment:</b>		
Location of toilet :		
Any adaptations required?		
Any equipment required to be listed?		
If toilet training programme list details.		
Who is responsible to ensure that supplies are ordered or available?	Outline disposal.	
How will the plan be monitored and who by?	This plan was completed by	

	Date
	Date for Review
Are any other agencies involved? Who?	List cover arrangements if staff are off school.

<b>This plan has been agreed by (indicate as appropriate) :</b>			
<b>Designation</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
Parent			
Teacher			
Headteacher / SLT			
SENCO			
Teaching assistants			
Outreach			