



## **Intimate Care and Nappy Changing Policy**

No child is excluded from participating in St Marks Pre-school who may, for any reason, not yet be toilet trained and who may still be wearing nappies or equivalent. The practitioner team works with parents towards toilet training, unless there are medical or other developmental reasons why this may not be appropriate at the time.

The pre-school provides nappy changing facilities and exercises good hygiene practices in order to accommodate children who are not yet toilet trained. The pre-school considers toilet training as a self-care skill that children have the opportunity to learn with the full support and non-judgemental concern of adults.

Intimate care may also include bottom wiping, or removing clothes due to soiling or vomiting.

The pre-school is committed to providing personal care that:

- maintains the dignity of the individual child
- is sensitive to each child's needs and preferences
- maximises safety and comfort
- protects against intrusion and abuse
- encourages the child to care for themselves as much as they are able and protects the rights of everyone involved.

## **Procedures**

- Practitioners undertake changing children according to both the pre-school routine and as a child's nappy becomes soiled.
- We will ensure that we explain to the child in a friendly manner that we need to help them to get cleaned up and why.
- Young children are changed within sight of other practitioners whilst maintaining their dignity and privacy at all times.
- The changing area is warm, with a safe area to lay children. Changing takes place on a mat on the floor in either the accessible toilet or a cubicle in the children's toilet. There is a fold-down changing table available if preferred.
- Practitioners put on gloves before changing starts.
- Practitioners are familiar with hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
- Practitioners will not make inappropriate comments about children's genitals when changing

their nappies.

- Practitioners ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children.
- Practitioners 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.
- Practitioners encourage children to wash their hands, and have soap and towels to hand. They should be allowed time for some play as they explore the water and the soap.
- Older children access the toilet when they need to and are encouraged to be independent.
- Practitioners dispose of nappies and pull-ups hygienically in a specific nappy bin. Pants, trousers, etc. that have been wet or soiled are double-bagged for parents to take home.
- The pre-school has a duty of care towards children's personal needs. If children are left in wet or soiled nappies/pull-ups in the setting this may constitute neglect and will be a disciplinary matter.
- In extreme circumstances, if a child objects to a member of staff providing intimate care, parents/carers will be contacted to come to the pre-school and provide the care themselves if necessary.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of the pre-school held on ..... (date)

Signed on behalf of the pre-school .....

Also see: Health and Safety

Safeguarding

Valuing Diversity and Promoting Inclusion and Equality