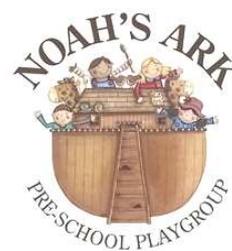


## **Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health**

Providers must ensure there are suitable hygienic changing facilities for changing any children who are in nappies.



## **6.4 Nappy changing**

### **Policy statement**

No child is excluded from participating in our setting 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.

### **Intimate Care**

Intimate care routines are essential throughout the day to ensure children's basic needs are met. This may include nappy changing, supporting children with toileting, applying cream, changing clothes where required, first aid treatment and specialist medical support.

We wish to ensure the safety and welfare of the children involved in intimate care routines and safeguard against any potential harm as well as ensuring the staff member involved is fully supported and able to perform their duties safely and confidently.

- Promote consistent and caring relationships through the key person system in the pre-school and ensure all parents understand how this works
- Ensure all staff undertaking intimate care routines have suitable enhanced DBS checks
- Train all staff in the appropriate methods for intimate care routines and access specialist training where required, i.e. first aid training, specialist medical support
- Conduct thorough inductions for all new staff to ensure they are fully aware of all nursery procedures relating to intimate care routines
- Follow up on these procedures through supervision meetings and appraisals to identify any areas for development or further training
- Ensure all staff have an up-to-date understanding of safeguarding and child protection and how to protect children from harm. This will include identifying signs and symptoms of abuse and how to raise these concerns in the most appropriate and speedy manner

- The setting operates a whistleblowing policy as a means for staff to raise concerns relating to their peers. The management will support this by ensuring staff feel confident in raising worries as they arise in order to safeguard the children in the pre-school
- Regularly conduct working practice observations on all aspects of pre-school operations to ensure that procedures are working in practice and all children are supported fully by the staff. This includes intimate care routines
- Train staff in behaviour management techniques as applicable
- Conduct regular risk assessments on all aspects of the pre-school operation and this area is no exception. The pre-school has assessed all the risks relating to intimate care routines and has placed appropriate safeguards in place to ensure the safety of all involved.

If any parent or member of staff has concerns or questions about intimate care procedures or individual routines please see the manager at the earliest opportunity.

## **Procedures**

- From the age of 2 years, if and when the child is ready, we encourage the parent to begin potty training and introduce pull up/training pants.
- Babies and young children are changed within sight of other staff whilst maintaining their dignity and privacy at all times.
- Our changing area is warm, with a safe area to lay children and no bright lights shining down in their eyes.
- Each child has their own bag to hand in the nappy changing area with their nappies or pull ups and changing wipes.
- Our staff put on gloves and aprons before changing starts and the areas are prepared. Changing mats are freshly wiped for each child.
- All our staff are familiar with our hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
- Our 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 towels to hand. They should be allowed time for some play as they explore the water and the soap.
- Currently because of Covid-19, we do use anti-bacterial hand wash liquid or soap on our children; This is a delicate and mild solution. We monitor children's skin and if we are concerned that their skin is cracking or sore, we will discuss with the parents to ensure we are working in the child's best interest against Covid-19.
- 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. Any soil (faeces) in nappies or pull ups is flushed down the toilet and 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 rinsed and bagged for parents to take home.
- We have 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].

This policy was adopted by	Noah's Ark Playgroup	<i>(name of provider)</i>
On	March 2021	<i>(date)</i>
Date to be reviewed	March 2022	<i>(date)</i>
Signed on behalf of the provider		
Name of signatory	Helen Butler	
Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner)	Manager	