



Toilet Training Policy

Responsible Persons:

Sarah Twomey and Carla Magalhaes-Ho (safeguarding officers)

Staff in charge and responsible for Toilet Training-

Key persons: Carla Magalhes- Ho, Dorita Fernandes, Yasmina Hachemi, Prudence Wango

Kingsgate Community Centre Preschool is committed to promoting inclusion for all children. We recognise that every child is an individual and, therefore, will have a unique development pattern.

Toilet training is a developmental stage that may create anxiety for the child and their parents and carers. Some children will be out of nappies between the ages of two and three, for others it may be later and, for some children, it may never happen.

The term 'toilet training' suggests that children can somehow be taught to have control over their bladder and bowels.

Early Years practitioners with a sound knowledge of child development will know that bladder and bowel control is largely dependent on a child's nervous system. Practitioners should support and reassure parents and carers that their child will be welcomed into the group.

Parents and carers should never feel under pressure to have their child toilet trained before they can be accepted into an early years setting. It may leave them feeling anxious or inadequate.

An intimate care policy for Kingsgate Community Centre Pre-school is in place and will be adhered to by all staff.

This policy must be read in conjunction with the Intimate Care Policy and guidelines.

Learning to use the toilet is a big event in a young child's life. Toilet training is a complex process and we aim to support parents and carers through this process with their children. Most children are ready to start potty training when:

- 1) They can follow simple instructions.
- 2) Remain dry for at least two hours at a time during the day.
- 3) Is usually dry after nap time.
- 4) Has regular and predictable bowel movements.
- 5) Walks to and from the bathroom, pulls down own pants and pulls them up again.
- 6) Seems uncomfortable with soiled or wet nappies.
- 7) Seems interested in the toilet.
- 8) Has asked to wear proper pants.

If the child has most of these skills, then they are probably ready to commence toilet training. We aim to build up the child's confidence with regular visits to the toilet. This includes taking all children to wash their hands at the sinks. We work with parents and carers, fitting into the child's routine through communicating with parents to inform them of their child's progress.

We provide steps and use modified toilet seats for those children that require them. Children will always be supervised when toilet training. We adopt a calm, easy going approach when toilet training tailored to the child's age/stage of development and needs. Practitioners talk to the child, discussing what they are doing and reinforcing the child's success at each step. Children will not be rushed; neither will they be made to sit on the toilet against their will. Occasional accidents are normal and the child will be cleaned and changed following the usual procedure.

Kingsgate Community Centre Pre-school staff encourage children to become independent when toileting although we are able to assist children that require help, should any child refuse the help of staff when toileting we will respect the child's rights and make parents/carers aware that this has happened during the day. We work with parents to ensure consistency for the child and support for the parent as necessary. If a child requires additional support with toilet training we will seek further advice and work with outside agencies such as the Health Visitor. Kingsgate Community Centre Pre-schools

Toileting Guidelines for Intimate Care to be read in conjunction with Kingsgate Community Centre pre-schools Intimate Care Policy:

- Staff aim to encourage young children to become independent at toilet time. However, this is a learning process where staff will need to give help and assistance as and when appropriate e.g. if struggling with fasteners etc.
- Staff members need to respond positively, to give practical and emotional support to children to enable them to develop their self-help skills towards independence.
- Children may ask for or require assistance to adjust and remove their own clothing when going to the toilet. Children will be encouraged to perform this task independently when appropriate.
- Children may ask for or require assistance to wipe their bottoms. Children must perform this task independently, unless there is an exceptional circumstance, e.g. **SEND**, and only where written parental permission has been given.

- Children may close cubicle doors themselves for privacy. Staff would be advised to leave the door open if they enter a toilet cubicle to assist a child whilst respecting the child's need for privacy and dignity.
- All children will be changed in a discreet area with all the necessary equipment at hand.
- Children will only be changed by a fully cleared member of staff as soon as necessary. Volunteers will not be allowed to carry out this duty.
- Cultural and religious needs will be taken into account at all times. Parents should inform staff of any particular needs.
- Staff will inform other members of staff when intimate care is necessary.
- Staff shall reassure children who need to be changed and help them to remain relaxed, comfortable and safe. They will be treated with respect at all times.
- Children shall never be left unattended whilst being changed.
- Staff should wear appropriate protective clothing when changing a child i.e. disposable gloves, apron.
- A record should be kept of each change and stored confidentially

Policy completed by: Sarah Twomey

Position: Pre-school Manager

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