



Chelmer Village Hall, Chelmer Village Square, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6RF  
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Registered Charity No. 1054083

## 9.08 Nappy changing and intimate care

Nappy changing times are key times in the day for communication, exploration and learning while attending Rainbow Pre-school. Children's privacy is maintained during nappy changing and toileting, whilst balanced with safeguarding considerations.

### Nappies

- Children are usually changed within sight or hearing of other staff whilst maintaining their dignity and privacy at all times.
- Nappy changing areas are warm; there are no bright lights shining down in children's eyes.
- If children refuse to lie down for nappy change, they can be changed whilst standing up, providing it is still possible to clean them effectively.
- Parents provide nappies, wipes and bags in their child's school bag.
- Members of staff put on aprons before changing starts and the area is prepared, gloves are always worn for soiled nappies.
- All members of staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
- Staff ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a happy time for children
- Staff are gentle when changing; they allow time for communicating with the child.
- Staff avoid pulling faces and making negative comments about the nappy contents.
- Staff do not make inappropriate comments about genitals, nor attempt to pull back a boy's foreskin to clean unless there is a genuine need to do so for hygiene purposes.
- Sometimes a child may have a sore bottom. This may have happened at home as a result of poor care; or the child may have eaten something that, when passed, created some soreness. The child also may be allergic to a product being used. This must be noted and discussed with the parent and a plan devised and agreed to help heal the soreness.
- Very soft, watery stools are signs of diarrhoea; strict hygiene needs to be carried out in cleaning the changing area to prevent spread of infection. The parent will be notified and asked to collect their child to reduce the risk of potential spread of infection.

## **Young children, intimate care and toileting**

- Young children are encouraged 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.
- They are encouraged to wash their hands and have soap and paper towels to hand. They should be allowed time for some play as they explore the water and the soap.
- Anti-bacterial hand wash liquid or soap should not be used by young children, as they are no more effective than ordinary soap and water.
- Wipes are used to clean the child in the event of a toileting accident.
- Staff do not make inappropriate comments about young children's genitals when changing their underwear.
- The procedure for dealing with sore bottoms is the same as above.
- Older children use the toilet when needed and are encouraged to be independent.
- Members of staff do not wipe older children's bottoms unless there is a need. Children are encouraged to try themselves and will be helped if needed.
- Parents are encouraged to provide enough changes of clothes for 'accidents when children are potty training.
- If spare clothes are kept by the setting, they are clean, in good condition and are in a range of appropriate sizes.
- If young children are left in wet or soiled nappies/pull-ups in the setting, this may constitute neglect and will be a disciplinary matter.
- Staff ensure that toileting is a relaxed time and is used to promote independence in young children.
- Key persons are gentle when changing and avoid pulling faces and making negative comment about changing soiled underwear and clothing