



Fairfield Nursery School **Nappy Changing and Intimate Care Policy** **2026 - 2027**

Fairfield Nursery School is committed to ensuring that all practitioners responsible for the intimate care of children understand their duties in a professional manner at all times. Practitioners have a duty of care towards children's personal needs and we recognise that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given. We work with parents towards toilet training, unless there is a medical or other developmental reason why this may not be appropriate. We see toilet training as a self-care skill that children should learn with the full support from their key worker and practitioners.

Practitioners will treat children with respect at all times, the child's welfare, privacy and dignity is of paramount importance. Practitioners are trained to do so and are fully aware of best practice.

Practitioners should be alert to signs of Female Genital Mutilation. Please refer to the Child Protection Policy and portfolio

[FGM: multi agency practice guidelines:](#)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/female-genital-mutilation-guidelines>

Procedures

- Practitioners at each nappy change and times of training accidents wear gloves and blue aprons. All practitioners are aware of hygiene practices and procedures and carry these out when changing nappies and supporting children through toilet training.
- In order to encourage a healthy self-esteem and a sense of identity practitioners should ensure that nappy changing is an enjoyable and relaxing time. It is also an opportunity for child and carer to gain a close relationship.
- Toilet training is a time to promote independence in children and we encourage children to take an interest in the toilet when parents or the child ask. Toilet training children are encouraged to wash their hands

with anti-bacterial soap and paper towel to dry hands after each visit to the toilet.

- Toilet trained children have independent access to the toilets and sink area when they need to and are encouraged to be independent with the support of their key worker and other practitioners close by. Practitioners will deal with wet or soiled accidents calmly, sympathetically and in a way that does not make the child feel as if they have done anything wrong. Parents are asked to provide their child with spare sets of clothes that are kept in the child's personal bag on their hook. Nursery clothes are available where needed.
- The practitioner should reassure the child by talking and responding to the child's voice and expression.
- Parents are asked to provide nappies for their child. The child's nappies and wipes should be at hand before practitioners begin changing the child's nappy.
- If the child can climb the steps to the changing unit, then they must be supported and encouraged to do this. If the child is unable to climb the changing bed steps the practitioner must safely lift the child and place them on the changing unit. The practitioner must always keep their foot on the grip at the bottom of the steps. The practitioner should support the child whilst they are climbing to prevent the child from slipping or falling.
- Under no circumstances should a child of any age be left alone on the changing unit – The practitioner should keep a hand on the child when changing nappies to prevent the child from falling off the changing unit.
- Communication through talking and singing is encouraged during the changing process, as this is an excellent bonding process.
- Nappies are disposed of hygienically. If the nappy is wet then it may be placed directly into the nappy bin within the changing unit as long as there is a bin liner inside the bin. If the nappy is soiled then the nappy must be placed into a nappy sack sealed and then placed into the bin.
- Training pants/underwear that have been wet or soiled will be rinsed in the sluice in the utility room and bagged to take home in the child's personal bag.

- After the nappy has been disposed of, the change area is to be sprayed with disinfectant and wiped down with the red/white cloth. This should be done in between each nappy change and hands should be thoroughly washed again with anti-bacterial soap provided.
- Parents should be informed if a child's nappy has been changed and also how toilet training has gone during the nursery session.
- School cleaners should empty the nappy bin at the end of the day and place another bin liner into the bin.