

# Potty Training

## Policy statement

Here at Merry Kidz day nursery we see potty training as a self-care skill that children can learn with the full support of adults.

Children need to be fully settled in and secure within the nursery environment before any toilet training is introduced in the setting. We will work closely alongside families to potty train their child, but the use of the potty or toilet must be introduced at home first. We ask that you communicate with staff once you have started this process at home, so we are ready when your child shows interest at nursery.

## Policy provision

- During the transition period, it is paramount that each child's self-esteem and confidence remains high.
- When you feel your child is ready for potty training, we ask that you begin teaching at home. Your child's key worker will arrange a convenient time to set next steps for potty training with you and discuss your plans for potty/toilet training your child. We will follow through and encourage your child while they are in our care. Daily communication between the parent and day care provider is very important.
- Whilst the setting cannot be expected to potty train your child, we will support you and your child through the process. It is important that we work together so as not to confuse or upset your child.
- Staff will never put a child on the potty unless the child is willing.
- Children training will be gently encouraged to sit on the toilet/ potty every time they are changed.
- Once children start showing signs of readiness and be able to control their bladder and bowel movements, child will transfer from nappies to underwear ( or pull-ups if necessary) and be escorted to the toilet every 20-30 minutes by a member of staff and record will be kept on their toileting throughout the day.

- We will ask you to ensure there is always 3 full sets of spare, labeled clothes in your child's bag in case your child needs to be changed on more than one occasion. (the nursery will not accept responsibility for unlabeled lost items).
- Parents will be asked to dress children in sensible clothing, easy to take off and put on independently.
- We will not allow anyone on work experience to toilet children or change their clothes and key person or other room staff are only permitted to do it with a full enhanced DBS check.
- Accidents will be dealt with sensitively; staff will be there to offer support and reassurance.
- Staff cannot wash out soiled clothing per regulations set by the Center for Disease Control. They are required to put soiled clothing in a plastic bag for you to take home and wash.
- If your child is in underwear and has persistent accidents in one day, we will put a pull-up or nappy back on them to save further upset, anxiety and stress for your children.
- If persistent accidents continue, we will advise that you may need to delay potty training for a short while and resume later.
- Good hygiene practices are always followed at the nursery and the children are shown how to use the potty or toilet and wash their hands each time they use it.
- Staff will always give positive praise and encouragement after each visit to the toilet, reward charts may also be used.

We understand toilet training is a very individual, independent process and each family will approach toileting differently, this policy outlines how we would encourage and maintain the process here at Merry Kidz day nursery. Each child's individual needs can be adapted to this process.