

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 provision 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 to accommodate children who are not, yet toilet trained.

We see toilet training as a self-care skill that children can learn with the full support and non-judgemental concern of adults.

The Early Years Statutory Framework (2025) states that it is essential that

‘There are suitable hygienic changing facilities for changing any children who are in nappies.

- Children’s privacy is considered and balanced with safeguarding and support needs when changing nappies and toileting.

Procedures

- A member of staff with whom the child is familiar changes a child’s nappy.
- Babies and young children are always changed within sight of other staff whilst maintaining their dignity and privacy.
- Our changing area is warm, with a safe area to lay children and no bright lights shining down in their eyes. There are mobiles and other objects of interest to take the child’s attention.
- Each child has their own nappies or pull ups and changing wipes.
- Our staff put on gloves and aprons before changing starts and the areas are prepared.
- 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.
- Staff model good hygiene practice by washing their hands after every nappy change.
- We do not use anti-bacterial hand wash liquid or soap for young children; young skin is quite delicate and anti-bacterial products kill off certain good bacteria that children need to develop their own natural resistance to infection.
- 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 soiled (faeces) nappies or pull ups are bagged and put in the bin. Cloth nappies, trainer pants and ordinary pants that have been wet or soiled are double bagged for parents to take home or put in their personal wash bags if provided by parents.
- 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	Jolly Tots Pre-School Nursery	(provider)
on	1 st September 2025	(date)
Date to be reviewed	September 2026	(date)
Signed on behalf of the management		
Name of signatory	Lee Davison	
Role of signatory (e.g., Chair/owner)	Manager	