



Pre-School Toilet (Potty) Training Policy

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:

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

Mini Oaks 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.