



Seaham Harbour Nursery School

Nappy Changing Policy

No child is excluded from participating in our school 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 in order to accommodate children who are not yet toilet trained.

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

Procedures

- Our key persons change nappies according to need.
- We encourage young children from two years onwards to normally wear trainer pants, as soon as they are comfortable with this and if their parents agree.
- All staff share the responsibility of changing children
- All young children are changed by qualified staff whilst maintaining their dignity and privacy at all times.
- Our changing areas are warm, with a safe area to lay children and no bright lights shining down in their eyes.
- Each child has their own bag to hand with their 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 or changing table.
- 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.

- We encourage children to wash their hands. They should be allowed time for some play as they explore the water and the soap.
- 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 soil (faeces) in nappies is flushed down the toilet and the nappy is bagged and put in the nappy bin. Any ordinary pants that have been wet or soiled are rinsed and bagged for parents to take home.
- A log is completed after a 'nappy change', with the child's name, time and staff signatures.
- We have a 'duty of care' towards children's personal need. If children are left in wet or soiled nappies in the nursery this may constitute neglect and will be a disciplinary matter.

Reviewed: September 2025

Chair of Governors Richard Williams
Headteacher Carole Scott