

09 Childcare practice procedures

09.8 Intimate care and nappy changing

Nappy changing times are key times in the day for being close and promoting security as well as for communication, exploration and learning.

Intimate care and toileting

- Wherever possible, key persons undertake changing young children in their key groups.
- Young children from two years may be put into 'pull ups' as soon as they are comfortable with this and if parents agree.
- Changing areas are warm, appropriately sited and there are safe areas to lay young children if they need to have their bottoms cleaned.
- If children refuse to lie down for nappy change, they can be changed whilst standing up, providing it is still possible to clean them effectively.
- Each young child has his/her own bag with their nappies/pull ups and changing wipes.
- Staff ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children.
- Young children are encouraged to take an interest in using the toilet.
- They are encouraged to wash their hands and have soap and paper towels to hand.
- Anti-bacterial hand wash liquid or soap should not be used by young children, as they are no more effective than ordinary soap and water.
- Staff are gentle when changing and avoid pulling faces and making negative comment about the nappy contents.
- Wipes are used to clean the child. Where cultural practices involve children being washed and dried with towels, staff aim to make reasonable adjustments to achieve the desired results in consultation with the child's parents. Where this is not possible it is explained to parents the reasons why. The use of wipes achieves the same outcome whilst reducing the risk of cross infection from items such as towels that are not 'single use' or disposable.
- Staff do not make inappropriate comments about young children's genitals when changing their nappies.
- Older children use the toilet when needed and are encouraged to be independent.

- Members of staff do not wipe older children's bottoms unless there is a need, or unless the child has asked.
- Key persons are responsible for changing where possible.
- Parents are encouraged to provide enough changes of clothes for 'accidents when children are potty training.
- If spare clothes are kept by the setting, they are neutral colours, and are clean, in good condition and are in a range of appropriate sizes.
- If young children are left in wet or soiled nappies/pull-ups in the setting, this may constitute neglect and will be a disciplinary matter.

Nappy changing is always done in an appropriate area. Children are not changed in play areas or next to snack tables.