



Nappy Changing and Intimate Care Policy

Alfresco is committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of children will understand their duties in a professional manner at all times. We recognise that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given. No child should be attended to in a way that causes distress, embarrassment or pain.

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

The management of all children with intimate care needs will be carefully planned and should be a positive experience for all involved. We will treat the child who requires intimate care with respect at all times, the child's welfare and dignity is of paramount importance. We will provide suitable equipment and facilities (pending funding) to assist with children who need special arrangements following assessment from a physiotherapist/occupational therapist.

Procedures

- Changing areas are warm and there are safe areas to lay young children if they need to have their bottoms cleaned.
- All staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
- Staff ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children.
- We encourage young 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. Children will be allowed time for some play as they explore the water and soap.
- We will not use anti-bacterial hand wash liquid or soap for young children.
- Staff are gentle when changing; they avoid pulling faces and making negative comment about 'nappy contents'.
- Staff do not make inappropriate comments about young children's genitals when changing their nappies.
- Older children access the toilet when they have the need to and are encouraged to be independent, for example washing their hands themselves afterwards etc.
- Nappies and pull ups are disposed of in the nappy bin which is emptied regularly and certainly after a soiled nappy. Cloth nappies, trainer pants and ordinary pants that have been wet or soiled are bagged for the parent to take home.
- It constitutes neglect to leave young children in wet or soiled nappies/pull ups and will be a disciplinary matter.