



GREEN OAKS PRIMARY ACADEMY

APPENDIX Early Years Foundation Stage

Intimate Care and toilet training Policy in EYFS

This appendix supports Greenwood Academies Trust Intimate Care Policy. Please refer to this alongside this document.

At Green Oaks we treat children as individuals, and this is included their intimate care and toilet training needs too. All children have different learning needs, cultures and family backgrounds and have had different experiences. We treat all children with respect and dignity, allowing them as much independence and the chance to communicate with us about their needs.

Developmental Expectations

At Green Oaks Primary Academy children start at our Nursery the term following their 3rd Birthday or in Reception from September following their 4th Birthday.

By the age of three the general developmental expectation for most children at the age of three would be:

- **In the process of being toilet trained or**
- **Independent when using the toilet or potty.**

*Exceptions

There are exceptions to this whereby toilet training progress is affected

- Children may have a physical medical need which or
- Special Educational Needs. This may be diagnosed/ undiagnosed at this stage

This is where a specific individualised plan, including any relevant equipment will be put in place in conjunction with parents, GP, Health visitor, Paediatrics, Occupational Health or other agencies.

Children's independence.

At Green Oaks Primary Academy EYFS, we promote as much independence as possible for children about personal hygiene and using the toilet. We would expect children to be in the process of toilet training or independent and will work closely with parents to support children with this. There are exceptions to this as stated above.*

Working with Parents and Carers.

We aim to work closely with parents for a collaborative approach to toilet training and intimate care. For consistency and the best interests of the child, it **is essential that parents and school are using the same approach to toilet training**

The same approach between home and school

Children feel more secure when a consistent approach is adopted between home and school and will make faster progress. Staff are committed to supporting children to progress with toilet training and this is only effective if parents are doing the same at home too. EYFS staff will work with parents on every stage and talk about next steps for children and any new approaches. Staff are very experienced and will fully support parents with advice and strategies as well as signposting to further support such as websites, books and other professionals who can advise too.

Identifying children's individual needs for toilet training or using the toilet

Before children start staff in Nursery and Reception will meet with parents and carers to talk about children's intimate care and toilet needs. This is an opportunity to discuss next steps and how children will transition into Nursery or Reception. This will be discussed privately, sensitively and appropriately at Stay and Play sessions, Parent Information Evenings, at 1-1 meetings or on the phone as appropriate.

Staff will show parents our toilet facilities so that children know what to expect. Photos of empty toilet areas in Nursery and Reception are displayed in school booklets and on the website. Our toilets are low and designed for young children. Frames are available around toilets for children with physical SEND needs and steps are available for little legs that may not reach the floor so that children feel secure. Staff are able support children using the toilet when needed if they feel unsure and need reassurance.

Potties

For reasons of space, limited facilities and Health and Safety at Green Oaks Primary Academy children use our own age- appropriate toilets. However, in individual circumstances and in discussion with staff, we may be able to support the use of a potty on a temporary basis as a 'stepping- stone' to using the toilet if there is a specific need.

Communicating with children with toilet needs and routines in school

- With regular routines, staff will warn children verbally in advance of what is going to happen. For example, "When you have finished that, it will be time to visit the toilet/ change your pull ups"

- Children are praised for following instructions or supported by the adult in a way that is appropriate for their individual needs. Some children may need the instruction in their own language if English is not their home language or to be shown a picture or symbol to support understanding of that routine. Children with SEND may need a symbol on a schedule or an object of reference (A real pull up or nappy) to support them.
- Children are consistently praised for visiting the toilet to try and for staying dry throughout the session and toilet accidents are not referred to negatively.

Stage of toilet training and how we approach it at Green Oaks

All children arrive at Green Oaks at different stages of toilet training and approaches will vary according to their needs

If children are wearing pants/ knickers and are still having a few toilet accidents

Staff will reassure parents as this is a normal stage of development. At school and Nursery there will be some accidents as this is normal at the beginning. Some parents worry that children will have accidents and cause extra work for staff. It is not necessary for children to be in pull ups or nappies when they start school if already toilet trained, this could be a step backwards and confusing for the child. As part of our Home School Agreement our expectation is that children always have their own supply of spare clothes and underwear in school so that children can be changed. Staff will remind children and take them to the toilet at regular intervals, appropriate to the needs of the child. Some need to visit the toilet often. This is on an individual basis.

If children are at the stage wearing nappies

Staff will discuss with parents how they can work with you and your child to support your child with toilet training at home and in Nursery or Reception. The aim will be to work towards as much independence as possible. All children respond very differently, and this will be an individualised approach.

The use of Pull Ups at Green Oaks Academy

If a child is still reliant on nappies at home during the day, as part of our intimate care and toilet training policy, we request that children come to Nursery or school wearing a pull up and have some spares provided also.** A pull -up is a disposable nappy that has elasticated sides that can be pulled up and down for toilet training.

This is outlined in our Academy Home/ School Agreement that is acknowledged and signed by parents at the beginning of each year.

The reason for this

- As a first stage, when children are comfortable and staff feel they are ready, children will be encouraged to visit the toilet and will be able to pull them up and down but also have the familiarity and security of a pull up.
- Children who show interest in the toilet can easily be supported with no pressure. This is more difficult to do if they are wearing a nappy as by the time it is removed the 'moment of opportunity' has passed. Staff have high expectations for independence and will encourage them to try to ensure they have chance to progress.
- Children will feel more independent in pull ups and see that other children use the toilet also rather than be changed.
- When a pull up is soiled or wet, children can be independent and be changed standing up. This is more age appropriate for them and better for the Health and Safety of staff. **Staff are unable to change nappies when children are standing.**
- Children when ready and are beginning to use the toilet more, will be encouraged to progress to pants or knickers. This will help children to 'know' when wet and support their progress with toilet training more rapidly as pull ups are more of a short-term solution and 'halfway' between nappy and pants/ knickers. Any changes will be in consultation with parents.

** In consultation with staff about specific medical needs or SEND needs children will be able to wear nappies in school. This will be as part of an individualised plan to meet their needs and reviewed regularly to discuss next steps in liaison with the Inclusion Lead.

Right to Privacy and Respect when using the toilet or being changed in EYFS

All children will have the right to privacy and respect in school. Children will be changed, standing up, as this is age appropriate. Children will have privacy inside a toilet cubicle, with an adult outside it who can be seen. If there is not enough space in a cubicle, a screen will be used. A second member of staff is present or close by.

When changing nappies screens are used to protect children's privacy.

Children will be encouraged to be as independent as possible and encouraged to clean themselves when this is appropriate. When adult support is necessary for cleaning up wet or soiled children, adults will explain to children what they are doing at age stage and ensure minimum contact possible to maintain dignity.

Record Keeping

Staff will keep a simple record of who has been changed and whether they were soiled or wet. This is initialled by the member of staff who changed them. Parents are informed of any toilet accidents and when children have been changed.

Replacement of pull ups, spare clothes

Parents are expected to replace missing items from children's supply of spares each time they have been used. The Academy has very few spare clothes and may need to telephone home for parents to bring some into school if there are non-available.

Changing Mats and Changing Tables

Staff have access to changing mats if children are significantly soiled and cannot be cleaned effectively standing up. These are cleaned and disinfected after each use.

Changing tables are provided by NHS Occupational Therapy for individuals who have SEND or specific medical needs.

For children who wear nappies for a specific reason, parents are asked to provide a changing mat specifically for their child as this will be used regularly.

Concerns

Staff are available to listen to and address any concerns about toilet training, intimate care or changing children. Parents are encouraged to speak to a member of staff if they have concerns or important information to share.

Summary of Expectations for toilet training and intimate care

Parents of pupils in Early Years at Green Oaks Primary Academy are required to

- Liaise with EYFS staff before children start with an agreed plan from school to home
- Continue to work together at home and school to support children's progress and make changes when needed.
- If children are not yet toilet trained (and in nappies at home) children should arrive at school/ Nursery in Pull- Ups and spares provided. Wipes and bags should also be provided in the bag clearly labelled with the child's name.
- Spare clothes should be provided as standard in school (all named) and extra set/ sets for children are undergoing toilet training.