



Mont Nicolle School Toileting Policy

Introduction

This policy provides guidance on good practice to the Reception team on promoting inclusion and ensuring the wellbeing of all children. It is important that the school ethos of developing strong and supportive partnership with parents informs all actions when dealing with sensitive issues of toileting.

Context

By the age of 4 most children are toilet trained. This policy supports those children who are experiencing difficulty with this. There are also children with additional support needs who may not be toilet trained until they are considerably older and have rights and expectations under the Disability Discrimination Act 2001.

Children who are not yet toilet trained or who are still having "accidents" should have their needs met within the school.

The class will follow the procedures below in the short term when dealing with wet or soiled children, understanding that this is not a normal part of the Reception practice, is not supported with adequate adult child ratios and needs addressing with the parents and other agencies.

Procedures

- Children should at all times be treated with a high level of care, dignity and sensitivity if they require changing.
- It is expected that the Reception team change children as soon as they need it. If this causes problems with ratios at busy times of day, then the KS manager or Headteacher should be informed and an extra member of staff requested from the school to help out. An LSA or TA can be requested from the school by phoning the office.

- Reception should have gloves, polythene bags for storing soiled clothing and wipes available for use in changing children.
- A log should be kept of when a child has been changed and this should be logged on SIMS if a pattern emerges.
- Parents should be informed of these occasions with discretion and sensitivity, at the end of if possible that session when they return to pick up their child. Whenever possible, this should be carried out in private.
- Children new to the Reception setting can regress initially or 'forget' their training. They may have an accident particularly when playing in water and similarly when engaged deeply in play. This should be regarded as expected and dealt with in this light.
- If a child has regular accidents (**defined as three or more times a week**) then the teacher should talk to the parent in private at the earliest opportunity as soon as a pattern emerges (after 2 weeks or more). The situation should be fully discussed and the possible reasons behind this explored.

See appendix 1 for a sample individual toileting programme that should be drawn up with the parent and teacher.

On rare occasions it may be necessary to phone a parent if a child has had an episode of soiling during a session **and if** the child is very upset or ill **and** needs to go home. **This procedure should not be used unless it has been agreed in advance of contacting parents with the KS manager or Headteacher. The child should have the soiling removed immediately and be cleaned up and left in clean clothes or pull-ups until the parents or carers arrive to take the child home.**

Appendix 1

Exemplar of Individual Toileting Programme - rare for Reception children

Discuss the situation in private first with the parents\carers, focussing particularly on:-

- What is happening in the child's life? Have there been any recent changes in health, diet, home environment or routines (eg new baby, parental separation).
- Are there any routines or aspects of toilet area which are different from the child's experiences at home?
- Where might there be sources of anxiety about access to, or use of the toilets?
- Might there be anything else stopping the child from feeling relaxed about going to the toilet?
- Explain your policy and practice to parents and give them a copy.
- Find out if there is a pattern to when accidents happen (for example a particular time during the session or during particular play activities.) This may necessitate focussed observations.
- Feedback to parents on any findings.
- Draw up an individual toileting programme with the parent or carer.
- If a child has regular accidents it is appropriate to ask the parent to supply a regular change of clothing in a bag to be kept on their peg. The whole nursery team should know if this is the case and look for dry clothes on the peg before using the nursery clothes.

The programme

Agree with parents/carers that

Their child will be sent in pull ups or ordinary pants and not nappies (unless in very exceptional circumstances of additional support needs)

A programme will be set up for the child which:-

- Is compatible with the child's habits and patterns and all children's needs for privacy and appropriate care.
- Includes frequent visits to the toilet

- Fits well with the daily routine of the nursery so visits to the toilet can be predictable and consistent
- Allows accidents to be anticipated and therefore work towards preventing them
- Includes a reward system (see reward chart sample)
- Includes record keeping so that progress and success can be measured
- Makes clear when feedback will be given to parents/carers on the child's progress
- Is shared and understood by the whole team

If necessary

Consult external agencies with parental agreement for example Health Visitor or School Doctor only after you have considered the following:-

- Is the wetting or soiling unusual for the child's age or the stage of development?
- Has the toileting programme been unsuccessful?
- Have you made all the reasonable adjustments and minor alterations you can to make the child (and parent) feel more relaxed and confident about using the toilet?

LP December 2019

Reviewed 14/01/21