



MELISSA'S CHILDCARE

TOILET TRAINING, PRIVACY & INTIMATE CARE POLICY

Policy Statement

I am committed to supporting families through the toilet-training process in a positive, consistent and developmentally appropriate way.

My goal is to work in partnership with parents/carers to make toilet training a smooth and stress-free experience for each child.

I recognise that toilet training is an individual developmental process and that children become ready at different times.

Children who are not toilet trained will continue to receive appropriate care, support and dignity.

Readiness and Early Support

Toilet training is not based solely on age, but on a child's physical, emotional and developmental readiness.

Signs of readiness may include:

- nappies remaining dry after naps or overnight;
- increased gaps between wet nappies, showing developing bladder control;
- the child communicating that they are wet or dirty and want to be changed;
- attempting to remove nappies or expressing an interest in wearing pants;
- showing curiosity about using the toilet or potty; and
- beginning to recognise or communicate when they need to use the toilet.

Parents/carers are encouraged to begin toilet training at home when their child is showing signs of readiness.

I will work with parents/carers to agree an approach that is appropriate for the individual child.

Partnership with Parents

I follow the toilet-training routine established at home wherever appropriate to ensure consistency and avoid confusion for the child.

I provide regular updates on progress within the setting and ask parents/carers to share how things are going at home.

Open and respectful communication is central to the child's toilet-training experience.



I am happy to support reward systems used at home where these are appropriate and positive.

I will provide regular toilet reminders where appropriate while avoiding pressure or unnecessary anxiety.

Children's Privacy

Children's privacy will be respected during toileting and intimate care.

However, the child's privacy must always be **considered and balanced with safeguarding and support needs**.

The level of privacy provided will reflect:

- the child's age;
- development;
- independence;
- individual support needs; and
- safeguarding circumstances.

Privacy will never be arranged in a way that prevents appropriate safeguarding or prevents the child receiving the support they need.

For example, where a child needs increased privacy, but other children also require supervision, I may use appropriate positioning, the arrangement of the environment or a suitable privacy screen while maintaining appropriate supervision.

Toileting and Intimate Care

When assisting a child with toileting or intimate care, I will:

- treat the child with dignity and respect;
- explain what I am doing in age-appropriate language;
- encourage the child's independence;
- provide assistance when needed;
- maintain appropriate safeguarding oversight;
- respect the child's individual needs;
- maintain appropriate hygiene; and
- record or report any safeguarding concern in accordance with the Safeguarding Policy.

Children will never be shamed, embarrassed or punished for toileting accidents or for needing help.



Nappy Changing

Suitable hygienic changing facilities will be provided for children who are still in nappies.

Nappy changing will be carried out in a safe, hygienic and respectful manner.

I will:

- explain what I am doing to the child;
- encourage the child to participate where developmentally appropriate;
- maintain the child's dignity and privacy;
- balance privacy with safeguarding and support needs;
- follow appropriate hygiene procedures;
- dispose of nappies safely; and
- wash my hands appropriately after changing.

Supporting Independence

Children will be encouraged to develop increasing independence at their own pace.

This may include:

- recognising when they need the toilet;
- communicating that they need help;
- managing clothing;
- using the toilet or potty;
- flushing;
- washing and drying hands;
- cleaning themselves where developmentally appropriate; and
- changing their clothes after an accident.

Children will receive assistance whenever it is needed.

Accidents

Toileting accidents will be dealt with calmly, discreetly and without shame.

The child will be offered clean clothing and appropriate assistance.

Where developmentally appropriate, children may be encouraged to participate in cleaning themselves and changing their clothes, with assistance provided whenever needed.

Parents/carers will be informed where appropriate, particularly where:



- accidents become frequent;
- there is a sudden change in toileting;
- there are signs of illness;
- the child is distressed; or
- there is another relevant concern.

Hygiene

Children will be taught and encouraged to wash their hands with soap and water after using the toilet and whenever appropriate.

The toilet and changing area will be maintained in a clean and hygienic condition.

There will be an adequate supply of:

- soap;
- water;
- suitable hand-drying facilities;
- clean spare clothes;
- nappies where required;
- wipes or other appropriate personal-care items; and
- clean towels where required.

Resources and Environment

To support toilet training, I provide age-appropriate resources such as:

- potties;
- toilet steps;
- child toilet seats;
- storybooks;
- role-play resources;
- visual prompts and cues where these are appropriate and helpful.

The environment will be arranged to support children's independence while maintaining appropriate safeguarding.

Support for Children with SEND

Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) will be supported according to their individual needs and developmental readiness, regardless of age.

I will work closely with parents/carers and, where appropriate, relevant professionals.

Individual arrangements may include:



- visual aids;
- communication systems;
- predictable routines;
- adapted equipment;
- additional time;
- sensory considerations; and
- additional support with personal care.

Privacy arrangements will also be adapted where necessary to balance the child's dignity, safeguarding and support needs.

Safeguarding During Intimate Care

Any unusual behaviour, disclosure, injury, distress or other safeguarding concern identified during toileting, nappy changing or intimate care will be managed in accordance with the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

Adults providing intimate care will maintain appropriate professional boundaries.

Any concern about an adult's conduct during intimate care will be reported immediately through the safeguarding procedure.

Partnership with Parents

Parents/carers will be kept informed about:

- toilet-training progress;
- accidents;
- changes in toileting needs;
- concerns;
- strategies being used; and
- any significant incident relating to intimate care.

I will aim to ensure that the approach used at home and at Melissa's Childcare is as consistent as reasonably possible.

Review

This policy will be reviewed if EYFS requirements, safeguarding guidance or the individual needs of children change.

Related policies: Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy; Health & Safety Policy; Illness & Infection Control Procedures; Equality Opportunity Policy; Working in Partnership with Parents.

