**Stratton Playgroup**

**6.4 Nappy changing**

**Policy statement**

At Stratton Playgroup, no child is excluded from participating in our setting who may, for any reason, not yet be toilet trained and who may still be wearing nappies or equivalent. 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 provide nappy changing facilities and exercise good hygiene practices in order to accommodate children who are not yet toilet trained.

We see toilet training as a self-care skill that children have the opportunity to learn with the full support and non-judgemental concern of adults.

**Procedures**

* Young children are changed within sight of other staff whilst maintaining their dignity and privacy at all times.
* Our changing area is warm, with a safe area to lay children and no bright lights shining down in their eyes. We ensure that we have objects of interest to take the child’s attention.
* Each child has their own bag to hand with their nappies or pull ups and changing wipes. If unavailable, we do have spare nappies & wipes, which we use, unless advised not to, by the parent.
* Our staff are encouraged to put on gloves and aprons before changing starts and the areas are prepared. The mat is on the floor, as we feel this is safer; blue roll can be put down on the changing mat, anti-bac spray or wipes are used after changing. Gloves are not always required for a wet nappy where there is no risk of infection; however, gloves and aprons are always available for those staff who choose to wear them. Gloves are always required for a ‘soiled’ nappy.
* All our staff are familiar with our hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
* Our staff never turn their back on a child or leave them unattended whilst they are on the changing mat.
* We are gentle when changing; we avoid pulling faces and making negative comments about ‘nappy contents’.
* We do not make inappropriate comments about children’s genitals when changing their nappies.
* In addition, we ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children.
* We encourage 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 hand dryers, paper towels are also available. They should be allowed time for some play as they explore the water and the soap.
* We do not use anti-bacterial hand wash liquid or soap for young children; young skin is quite delicate and anti-bacterial products kill off certain good bacteria that children need to develop their own natural resistance to infection.
* Older children access the toilet when they have the need to and are encouraged to be independent.
* We dispose of nappies and pull ups hygienically. The nappy or pull up is bagged and put in the bin and disposed of daily. Cloth nappies, trainer pants and ordinary pants that have been wet or soiled are bagged for parents to take home.
* We have a ‘duty of care’ towards children’s personal needs. If children are left in wet or soiled nappies/pull ups in the setting this may constitute neglect and will be a disciplinary matter.

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| This policy was adopted by | Stratton Playgroup | *(name of provider)* |
| On | 19/07/2023 | *(date)* |
| Date to be reviewed | Jul-2026 | *(date)* |
| Signed on behalf of the provider |  | |
| Name of signatory |  | |
| Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner) |  | |