

## **2.4. CONTINENCE and NAPPY CHANGING**

### **Policy Statement**

Feltwell Playgroup is committed to supporting children's continence and toileting needs in line with the EYFS and the development of their Personal, Social and Emotional needs.

We recognise that children develop at different rates and that some will be toilet trained when they start and some may take some time to develop these skills. No child is excluded from attending 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 to support the child's individual needs and work towards toilet training, unless there are medical or other developmental reasons why this may not be appropriate at the time.

We make necessary adjustments to our bathroom provision and hygiene practice 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.

We encourage parents to start toilet training at home first. Once they feel that their child is confident enough to pull up / pull down and try to use the bathroom at Playgroup, please speak to a member of staff, so that we can encourage the child to use Playgroup bathrooms (potty and toilets). At this stage we recommend children can wear pull ups, so that they can access the toilet independently and should be encouraged to wear underwear as soon as possible to prevent confusion. If your child is not at a stage where they can confidently pull up and pull down clothing and will still need to be changed (nappy), we request that they are sent to Playgroup in regular nappies (not pull ups), as this will speed up the nappy changing process.

In line with our Safeguarding Policy, only staff with a full DBS clearance will be allowed to provide intimate care.

### **Procedures**

- Children should arrive in a fresh nappy/pull-up and parents are expected to provide all items needed including nappies/pull-ups, wet wipes and changes of clothes in a clearly named bag.
- Only disposable nappies/pull-ups are to be used at Playgroup.
- Nappy rash ointments should not be sent in as these cannot be applied. If a child has been given prescription medication which needs to be used during nappy changing times, staff will put the cream onto the child's nappy only (not on the skin).
- Changing areas are warm and there are safe areas to lay young children if they need to have their bottoms cleaned.
- Gloves are worn and aprons are available to put on before changing starts and the areas are prepared.
- Children who wear nappies or pull ups to Playgroup will be changed when they have soiled and always at lunchtime if attending a full day. Regular, daily reminders are set up to check on those children.
- All staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
- In addition, staff ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children.
- Staff are gentle when changing; they avoid pulling faces and making negative comments about 'nappy contents'.
- Staff do not make inappropriate comments about young children's genitals when changing their nappies.
- After children's nappies have been changed, children are encouraged to wash their hands the same way as children who use the toilet do.

- Nappies and 'pull ups' are disposed of hygienically. The nappy or pull up is bagged and put in black bin. Cloth trainer pants and ordinary pants that have been wet or soiled are bagged for the parent to take home.
- Young children are encouraged 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.
- Older children access the toilet when they have the need to and are encouraged to be independent.
- In cases where items of clothing have been heavily soiled, the parent may be contacted to ask about disposal of items.
- Concerns that a child may be at risk of female genital mutilation (FGM) MUST be reported to a Safeguarding Officer who will then report it to the necessary agencies.

This policy was adopted by

Feltwell Playgroup

On

27.01.2026

Date to be reviewed

(on or before) 27.01.2027

Signed on behalf of the provider

J.I.

Name of signatory

Jonathan Irving

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner)

Committee Chairperson