**Promoting health and hygiene**

**Nappy changing and toileting**

**Policy statement**

As we take children from 2 years old, many of our younger children are still wearing nappies or equivalent. No child is excluded from participating in Panda Playgroup 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 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.

**Procedures**

* Key workers are aware of the changing need for the young children in their care who are in nappies or ‘pull-ups’.
* Children should always be changed by a familiar adult. A rota system is used for nappy changes.
* Children are changed in the toilet area at floor level.
* Each young child who needs them has their own bag containing nappies and wipes on their peg or in their book bag.
* Gloves are put on before changing starts and the areas are prepared. The changing mat is cleaned with antibacterial wipes before and after each use.
* All staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
* In addition, Practitioners ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children.
* 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.
* Children should be encouraged to wash their hands independently and have soap and towels to hand. They should be allowed time for some play as they explore the water and the soap.
* Practitioners are gentle when changing; they avoid pulling faces and making negative comment about ‘nappy contents’.
* Practitioners do not make inappropriate comments about young children’s genitals when changing their nappies
* Older children access the toilet when they have the need to and are encouraged to be independent.
* Children have access to toilets, potties, training seats and booster steps to enable them to become as independent as possible with their toileting.
* Potties are emptied into the toilet by staff after use and wiped with an antibacterial wipe.
* Nappies and ’pull ups’ are disposed of hygienically. Any soil (faeces) in nappies or pull ups is flushed down the toilet and the nappy or pull up is bagged and put in a nappy sack in the nappy bin. Cloth nappies, trainer pants and ordinary pants that have been wet or soiled are bagged for the parent to take home.

**This policy has been reviewed and updated June 2017**