Stirling North Childhood Services Centre

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Toileting and Nappy Changing Policy

National Quality Standards QA 2	2.1.3	Effective hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.
	2.1.4	Steps are taken to control the spread of infectious diseases and to manage injuries and illness, in accordance with recognised guidelines.
	2.3.2	Every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children from harm and any hazard likely to cause injury.

National Regulations	77	Health, hygiene, and safe food practices.
	109	Toilet and hygiene facilities.
	155	Interactions with children.
	168	Education and care service must have policies and procedures.

Early Years Learning Frameworks LO3	Actively support children to learn hygiene practices.
	Promote continuity of children's personal health and hygiene by sharing ownership of routines and schedules with children, families and the community.
	Discuss health and safety issues with children and involve them in developing guidelines to keep the environment safe for all.
	Model and reinforce health, nutrition and personal hygiene practices with children.

Stirling North Childhood Services Centre promotes the health, safety and wellbeing of all children enrolled in the site's programs at all times.

Whilst the majority of children enrolling at the centre are toilet trained, a number of children still are not developmentally ready. The centre promotes the inclusion of all children, including those with health care needs. We encourage children to take responsibility for themselves, parents can assist their child by dressing them in clothes that are easy to manage when nature calls. Handwashing is a consistent part of the toilet routine and all is done to ensure handwashing procedures are followed.

It is suggested that all families provide their child with at least one change of clothes in case of accidents (toileting or otherwise e.g. mud play). It is quite common for children to have accidents e.g. when they have not yet acquired complete control; are new to the centre; are overly fatigued or unwell or when completely immersed in what they are doing. Many children are humiliated by wet or soiled underwear and staff are sensitive to this and help change the child in a manner that provides privacy, minimises anxiety and encourages independence. Children are happier to change into familiar clothes that they identify as their own. The centre keeps a supply of spare clothes for emergency situations.

Staff will alert another staff person that they are 'off the floor' supporting a child in the bathroom (and also make other staff aware when they are back on the floor). Staff will endeavour to make sure they are as visible as practical or within hearing distance of another staff member whilst changing a child. Generally it is not possible to have 2 staff supporting a child due to staffing ratios and DECD advises that this is not essential although in certain cases may be necessary in their policy guidelines.

On rare occasions children may soil themselves and their body and will need more support in cleaning themselves than being talked through adequate wiping. In instances of severe soiling a parent may need to be rung to come and collect their child especially if it is likely they have an infection (e.g. gastro, or if the child has diarrhoea).

Families are responsible for providing all aids and equipment their child may need e.g., nappies, pull-ups, wipes, and spare clothes.

Soiled clothing will be sealed in a plastic bag(s) and placed in the child's kindy bag. Parents will be notified at pick up time of any toileting accidents their child may have had in the day, and that the clothes are in their child's kindy bag. Extremely soiled underpants may be disposed of at staff's discretion for hygiene reasons.

The centre will provide the resources that staff may need to complete their duties e.g. gloves, hand wash, disposable nappy bags, air freshener, changing child register and changing facilities.

If any child needs additional support that is different to the practices and procedures outlined above or an individual continence care plan is in place in consultation with your child's doctor please speak to the director for further support with this process.

Source:

Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority. National Quality Standard Information Sheet. (2018) Toileting and Nappy Changing Principles and Practices.
Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics. (2016).
Education and Care Services National Regulations. (2011).
Guide to the National Quality Framework. (Amended 2020).

Review:

Governing Council and staff will monitor and review the effectiveness of this policy and revise the policy when required (at least once every three years).

This Policy has been approved and ratified by Governing Council. Date of next review: November 2026.

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Kelly Versteeg - Chairperson	**Lynette Francis - Director**
6 November 2023	**6 November 2023**

Policy reviewed: 6 November 2023	**Next review date: 6 November 2026**
Policy reviewed: 4 November 2020	**Next review date: 4 November 2023**
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