

Toileting and Toilet Training Policy

Toileting

Children will use the composting toilet when in the setting. A practitioner will accompany them and assist if needed, children are encouraged to wipe themselves and a practitioner will help and check to ensure they are clean. A further staff member will be available to supervise and assist where required.

Children are encouraged to maintain their own hygiene by washing or sanitising their hands. They will be reminded, or assisted by the accompanying practitioner.

The toilet door is to remain open during use for the children with a privacy curtain pulled across for safeguarding purposes.

On site we have 3 compost toilets, one in little squirrels for staff, one in forest nursery for preschool and one between both cabins for little squirrels and the preschool when they are up at the cabin. Children will always be supervised when using the toilet.

Nappies

Nappies are changed as and when needed, and routinely before lunch and later in the afternoon. Wet nappies can be changed standing up to avoid stripping the children causing them to get cold. When changing soiled nappies again as many layers are left on as possible to prevent chill. The children are welcome to come in pull ups, however normal nappies are preferred for changing times as they can be changed without fully stripping the child (again to prevent them getting cold). The exception to this is if a pull up is being used specifically to aid toilet training.

Nappies are changed in the shed or cabin in an area to allow the child privacy but so the practitioner is in full view to ensure safeguarding. Parents are to provide nappies and can provide wipes and cream from home if preferred. Otherwise Aldi own brand sensitive wipes and sudocrem will be used (permissions attained on Ovivo). See Infection control and hygiene policies for further details.

Potties

We allow children to bring a potty into our younger room little squirrels to aid with potty training with a view to the child progressing to using the compost toilet. As we are a forest school however we don't have running water so the potty will be sanitised with wipes and detol spray after use. We do not have the facilities for the use of potties in preschool so all children must be comfortable using the toilet by the time they move up.

As we are an outdoor nursery, from experience, we have found it easier to assist with toilet training in summer. As you can imagine, in winter children are wearing more layers which interferes with their ability to recognise when they need to toilet. More layers, also means they will be on the toilet for longer due to the time required to undress them which can also result in accidents. As and when accidents do happen, the children run the risk of getting cold whilst we change their clothing.

We regularly ask the children if they need the toilet but we do still rely on the child's language, understanding and ability to communicate their need to use the toilet. If your child is newly toilet trained we will ask them more frequently, usually hourly.

Reviewed by Jessica Timmins 10/09/26

If parents wish to use pull-ups in the interim and have staff take them to the toilet to help get used to the routine and facilities, we find this helps them to adjust well.

Finally, if your child is toilet training, please provide plenty of spare clothing including underwear, t-shirts, trousers, socks, waterproofs and wellies.