

# Toilet Training Policy



Children all develop at different rates, so there is no set age that children should begin using a potty or toilet. Potty or toilet training is the process of teaching your child the set of skills that they will need to be able to wee and poo in a socially acceptable place. Many children will never give any signs that they are ready to potty or toilet train. Therefore, it is not helpful to wait for your child to seem to be ready to learn to use the potty or toilet. Children need to be taught the skills they will need to potty or toilet train, in the same way as they need to be taught other skills, such as washing, brushing their teeth, or feeding themselves. This teaching can start at any time and, as with other developmental skills, your child should gradually become more independent with time and practice. Information about when and how to start toileting with your child can be found on the NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/babys-development/potty-training-and-bedwetting/how-to-potty-train/> You can also find some useful information on the Bowel and Bladder UK website: <https://www.bbuk.org.uk/children-young-people/resources-for-children/>

## When can a child start using a potty or toilet at Little Dragon's Day Nursery?

It is a parent/carer's job to teach their child the skills that they will need to be able to use a potty or toilet initially. We will be here to support that process and offer any advice and tips that we can. After your child has stopped wearing a nappy at home and is having some success in doing their wees on the potty or toilet for about a week then we can continue with this process at nursery. This ensures that they feel happy and comfortable in wearing pants and using the toilet or potty before trying it in a new place.

## What Toileting facilities are available at Nursery?

Children will have access to the following toileting facilities:

- Access to child sized toilets within the room.
- Access to various potties if this is of preference.

If a child prefers a particular type of potty or toilet seat, parents/carers are welcome to supply their own.

## How much supervision will be given?

Children will be fully supervised when using a potty or toilet and supported with undressing and redressing if necessary. As they get older, some children may be allowed to use the potty or toilet alone, provided they are able to access it independently and hygienically. Children should be taught how to wipe themselves but will be given support as and when necessary, to ensure they are hygienically clean every time. Children should be able to successfully access the toilet independently without adult support before they start school.

## Should a child wear pull ups or underwear at Nursery?

At Little Dragon's, we are advocates for children who are toilet training to wear underwear as opposed to pull ups. This is to help aid a child's understanding of what it means to go to the toilet. Should you wish for your child to wear pull-ups, these must be supplied by parents.

## What extra resources will be needed?

Please provide plenty of spare clothes for your child, just in case they need to be changed multiple times.

## What if a child is unsuccessful in using the potty/toilet?

We will provide you with daily feedback about how your child is progressing with the potty or toilet at Nursery and if either of us feel that things aren't working how they should be, we will discuss what to do next.

It is inevitable that children will have the odd accident as they get used to not wearing nappies. This is to be expected and all part of the process. However, if this is a regular occurrence, then it may be necessary to take a break and try again at a later date. If a child is experiencing difficulties with potty training, we will develop a



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collaborative plan with parents/carers to address any challenges. It may be necessary to take a break and try again at a later date if the care of the other children is compromised due to excessive accidents or if the child is distressed.

## **Rewards**

If you feel that it would help your child to succeed, we are happy to use a shared reward system, such as a sticker chart.

## **What hygiene practices are followed?**

Children will be taught thorough hand washing techniques and will be required to wash their hands with soap and water every time after using the potty or toilet, whether or not they were successful at producing anything.

Adults also wash their hands after assisting children with toileting. We will risk assess our setting and ensure toilets, potties and surrounding areas are kept clean and hygienic.

## **What will children do on outings?**

All children will be encouraged to use the toilet or potty just before we leave the setting. We will also have the following procedures in place for when children need to go while we are out:

- A portable potty will be taken on outings.
- When accessing the field, the children will have access to the portable toilet.