



7.20 Caring for Toddlers/Pre-schoolers Policy

At **Tarvin Pre-School & Day Nursery** we care for toddlers age of two as well as pre-school children.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Nappy changing, Respectful intimate care, Safer sleep, Nutrition and mealtime and Use of dummies in nursery policies.

We ensure their health, safety and well-being through the following:

- Implementing the EYFS requirements at all times and caring for toddlers and pre-schoolers
- Allocating each toddler/pre-schooler a key person who works in partnership with their parent to meet their individual needs and routines
- Having well qualified staff who understand the needs of toddlers and pre-schoolers
- Ensuring babies and toddlers have opportunities to see and play with older children whilst at nursery
- Toddlers transitioning to the older age groups or rooms when assessed as appropriate (see separate Transitions policy)
- Staff supervising toddlers and preschoolers organising the environment to support both groups of children and toddlers.

Environment

- The environment, equipment and resources are risk assessed and checked daily before the children access the rooms or areas
- All doors are fitted with viewing panels and door finger-guards to prevent accidents
- Flooring is cleaned regularly
- Large pieces of furniture are fixed to the walls to stop them falling on top of young children
- Play and learning is planned in line with children's individual interests and the EYFS learning and development requirements.

Resources

- Care is taken to ensure that toddlers do not have access to resources or activities containing small pieces, which may be swallowed or otherwise injure the child
- Toddlers and Pre-schoolers are closely supervised during all activities
- Resources and equipment that young children have placed in their mouth are cleaned and/or sterilised after use
- All resources are frequently cleaned
- Soft furnishings are frequently cleaned

Intimate care

- Toddlers'/Pre-schoolers privacy is considered and balanced with safeguarding and support needs when changing nappies and toileting
- Toddlers (& Pre-Schoolers if applicable) have their nappies changed according to their individual needs and requirements by their key person, wherever possible. Checks are documented with the time and staff initials and information is shared with parents
- When developmentally appropriate, we work closely with parents to sensitively support toilet training in a way that suits the individual needs of the child
- Potties are washed and disinfected after every use. Changing mats are wiped with anti-bacterial cleanser before and after every nappy change
- Staff ensure all the equipment is ready before toddlers are placed on the changing mat
- No child is ever left unattended during nappy changing time
- Intimate care times are seen as opportunities for one-to-one interactions
- Staff do not change nappies whilst pregnant until a risk assessment has been discussed and conducted. Students only change nappies with the support and close supervision of a qualified member of staff (see separate Student policy)
- Cameras, mobile phones and other electronic devices with imaging and sharing capabilities are not permitted in toilet and nappy changing areas

- Nappy sacks and creams are not left in reach of children

We always follow systems in place to ensure there is an adequate supply of clean bedding, towels and spare clothes.

Mealtimes

- All young children are seated safely on low chairs. We do have some highchairs for the youngest of children if required. Children are never left unattended.
- Mealtimes are seen as social occasions and promote interactions. Staff always sit with the young children, interacting, promoting communication and social skills
- Food will be prepared by the primary school cook
- All children are closely supervised whilst eating and if any choking incidents occur paediatric first aid will be administered
- Young children are encouraged to feed themselves with support, as required

Comforters and dummies

- We have a separate Use of dummies in nursery policy to promote communication and language development
- If dummies are used, they are cleaned and sterilised. This also applies to dummies which have been dropped on the floor
- All dummies are stored in separate labelled containers to ensure no cross-contamination occurs
- Dummies are disposed of if they become damaged
- Comforters including teddies and blankets are kept safe and provided at sleep times, or if the child becomes unsettled.