

NAPPY CHANGE AND TOILETING POLICY

Dalas Family Day Care Service aims to ensure Family Day Care educators meet the needs of children by providing a clean, safe, and hygienic place for nappy changes and toileting in their residence or venue. We believe that nappy-changing and toileting rituals provided in a caring and responsive manner are valuable opportunities to promote children's learning, meet individual needs, and to develop strong relationships with children.

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD (NQS)

QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY		
2.1	Health	Each child's health and physical activity is supported and promoted.
2.1.1	Wellbeing and comfort	Each child's wellbeing and comfort is provided for, including appropriate opportunities to meet each child's needs for sleep, rest and relaxation.
2.1.2	Health practices and procedures	Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.
2.2	Safety	Each child is protected.
2.2.1	Supervision	At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard.
2.2.2	Incident and emergency management	Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented.
2.2.3	Child Protection	Management, educators and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities to identify and respond to every child at risk of abuse or neglect.

EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES NATIONAL REGULATIONS	
103	Premises, furniture and equipment to be safe, clean and in good repair
105	Furniture, materials and equipment
106	Laundry and hygiene facilities
109	Toilet and hygiene facilities
115	Premises designed to facilitate supervision
116	Assessments of family day care residences and approved family day care venues
155	Interactions with children
156	Relationships in groups

Victorian Child Safe Standards	
Standard 1	Organisations establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and young people are respected and valued
Standard 2	Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture
Standard 3	Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously
Standard 4	Families and communities are informed, and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing
Standard 5	Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice
Standard 6	People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice
Standard 7	Processes for complaints and concerns are child focused
Standard 8	Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training
Standard 9	Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed
Standard 10	Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved
Standard 11	Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved

RELATED POLICIES

Family Communication Policy Supervision Policy Control of Infectious Diseases Policy Hand Washing Policy	Health and Safety Policy Family Communication Policy Interactions with Children, Families and Staff Policy
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PURPOSE

Dalas Family Day Care aim to ensure best practice guidelines are adhered to for nappy changing and toileting, ensuring that children's bathrooms and nappy change areas are maintained in a hygienic state in order to eliminate or reduce the spread of infectious disease. Dalas Family Day Care Service will also ensure that nappy change and toileting routines are used as an opportunity for one-on-one interactions between the educator and child.

SCOPE

This policy applies to the Approved Provider, Coordinator, Educators, Educator Assistants, children, families, and visitors of the Family Day Care Service.

IMPLEMENTATION

Nappy changes and toileting routines are incorporated into the FDC educator's routine, both at designated times and throughout the day to meet children's individual needs. Educators will communicate with parents to develop continuity between our Service and home in regard to their child's nappy change and toileting practices. We will develop a toileting plan in consultation with parents to develop a consistent approach to toilet training. Educators/Educator Assistants must be responsive to special requirements related to culture, religion, or privacy.

Toileting and nappy changing will be carried out at frequent intervals throughout the day. Children who are in nappies will have each nappy change recorded in the Nappy Change Register by the FDC Educator. The FDC Educator will monitor the progress of a child's toilet training and provide information to parents of how many times the child actually sat on the toilet or managed to use the toilet in a day.

Having their needs met quickly and in a caring responsive way builds children's sense of trust and security. It is also important to remember that the way that Early Childhood Educators react to soiled or wet nappies, toileting needs, and toileting accidents give children powerful messages about themselves and their bodies.

Nappy changing and toileting routines are an excellent opportunity for Educators/Educator Assistants to:

- Conduct one-to-one interactions with babies, toddlers, and children, giving them undivided attention
- Build trusting and caring relationships with babies, toddlers, and children
- Interact with babies and toddlers using verbal and non-verbal communication and respond to children's communication
- Participate in age-appropriate activities with children, such as singing, saying rhymes
- Build children's understanding of what is happening by inviting them to the bathroom and supporting their ability to predict what will happen next in the routine

- Help children begin to develop and extend their self-help skills, which includes handwashing and dressing, and encouraging children to identify the feeling of accomplishment and pride that come with this
- Educators/Educator Assistants will carry out nappy changing; however, at times if a student is required to carry out this as part of their practical requirements, they will be under the constant supervision of the Educator.

Appropriate hygiene practices must be maintained, and procedures followed to minimise any risk of infection at all times. Educators/Educator Assistants will continuously role-model and promote healthy hygiene practices and hand washing procedures, encouraging and supporting the children to follow these practices.

THE FAMILY DAY CARE SERVICE WILL:

- Implement policies, procedures, and training for FDC Educators to ensure nappy change procedures support children's safety, protection, relationships, and learning
- Conduct annual assessments of the Family Day Care residence, or if the care arrangement will be change
- Consider the suitability of nappy change arrangements for children attending, or likely to attend the service who wear nappies
- ensure FDC educators display handwashing posters in bathrooms and near nappy change area
- provide information to families at time of enrolment about:
 - use of disposable nappies
 - procedures if their child develops or presents with nappy rash
 - Administration of Medication authorisation for application of products to treat nappy rash including prescription treatments or over the counter creams
 - requests to provide adequate supplies of clothes for children who are toilet training
 - the importance of ongoing and open communication between educators and families about nappy changing and toilet training with their child

THE FDC EDUCATOR and/or EDUCATOR ASSISTANT WILL:

- Provide an adequate and appropriate hygienic facility for nappy changing
- Ensure the nappy change facility is designed and located in a way that prevents unsupervised access by children

- Ensure that the nappy change facility is designed and maintained in a way that facilitates supervision of children at all times, having regard to the need to maintain the rights and dignity of the children using the facilities.
- Discuss children's individual needs with families to ensure practices are reflective of their home environment and are culturally sensitive
- Develop systems to ensure that soiled clothing and soiled nappies are disposed of or stored in a location that children cannot access
- Ensure that adult and children's hand washing facilities are located within the nappy change area and procedures are displayed visually in appropriate areas
- Ensure handwashing poster ("How to wash your hands") and Nappy Change poster ("Changing a nappy without spreading germs") are displayed in bathrooms and nappy change areas
- Ensure nappies are checked regularly throughout the day to ensure children are not susceptible to nappy rash and discomfort. A system to record this routine will be maintained for reporting purposes.
- Provide information to families regarding children's nappy changes
- Ensure nappy bins have a 'hands-free' lid
- Ensure nappy bins are located out of children's reach, preferably in a child-proof cupboard.
- Ensure nappy bins are emptied once during the day and at the end of each day, or more regularly as required.
- Ensure nappy change procedures remain compliant and current. (see Appendix 1: Nappy changing procedure below)
- always follow the FDC service's requirements for nappy changing and toileting and communicating with families
- Utilise nappy change times to interact with children, toddlers, and babies on an individual basis. The nappy change time will allow educators to converse, sing, play, and generally interact with the child. This time is a particularly good time for supporting language skills
- Organise the nappy change area to promote positive interactions and promote positive learning experiences. For example, place pictures or mobiles to stimulate children's interactions and to encourage learning and language development
- Ensure physical contact and direct supervision with babies and toddlers throughout the nappy change experience
- Ensure no child is left alone on a nappy change mat or bench
- Keep nappy change areas fully stocked with all required materials at all times to ensure efficiency and the health and safety of each child
- Encourage mobile children to walk to the nappy change area

- Assist the mobile baby or toddler to walk up the steps onto the nappy change bench to minimise lifting by educators and to promote children's agency. Where a child is not walking, educators will follow manual handling practices to lift and carry the baby to the nappy change mat.
- only apply nappy cream to a child if authorisation is provided in an Administration of Medication form, signed by the parent/guardian

TOILET TRAINING

Toileting occurs at any time of the day and is specific to individual needs. The FDC Educator will communicate with parents/guardians to develop consistency between home and the service in regard to their child's toileting habits. FDC Educators must be aware of and consider any special requirements related to culture, religion, or privacy needs.

Decisions about when to begin toilet training will be made by families or may occur through shared decision making between families and early childhood professionals. This decision is based on mutual respect and open communication, which is crucial for a successful outcome. Families may have strong views and preferences about when and how their child learns to use the toilet, which may come from their cultural background or individual preferences which must be respected by Educators/Educator Assistants.

The priority of the individual child's wellbeing is paramount, and the decision to begin assisting the child to learn to use the toilet should be based on signs of readiness from the child and discussion with families.

Early signs of readiness may start to appear when children are around two years old, but generally appear closer to the child's third birthday. However, generally boys will show signs of readiness later than girls. These signs may include:

- Showing interest in the toilet, including having an interest in others using the toilet.
- Indicating a need to go to the toilet either before, or while they are passing urine or faeces.
- Staying dryer for longer periods of time.
- Beginning to dislike wearing a nappy and perhaps trying to pull it off when it's wet or soiled.
- Indicating a desire to sit on the toilet.

You might see signs that the child is ready for toilet training from about two years on. Some children show signs as early as 18 months, and some might be older than two years.

It might be time for toilet training if your child:

- is walking and can sit for short periods of time

- is becoming generally more independent, including saying 'no' more often
- is becoming interested in watching others go to the toilet
- has dry nappies for up to two hours
- tells you with words or gestures when they do a poo or wee in their nappy
- begins to dislike wearing a nappy, perhaps trying to pull it off when it's wet or soiled
- has regular, soft, formed bowel movements
- can pull their pants up and down
- can follow simple instructions like 'Give the ball to daddy'.

It is important to keep the process subdued and not place unnecessary attention and pressure on the child to perform. Acknowledging children's successes, no matter how infrequent or small is vital for their self-esteem and confidence. Families and Educators can expect accidents, which should be treated respectfully, without fuss, and in a supportive manner.

Educators and families will communicate with each other regarding how the toilet learning is progressing, both in care and at home. This will support children to become more familiar and comfortable with the toilet training process. Children will be given the opportunity to complete the toileting procedure, such as toileting, flushing the toilet, and washing and drying their hands, but will always be supervised and assisted if required.

During this milestone, children should be empowered and encouraged to be successful. Toilet training varies for individual children. As Educators we can take advantage of the child being in a group and the many opportunities that provides for learning from each other. Educators and families need to remember that comparing children is inappropriate as there will always be individual differences and variables.

EDUCATORS WILL:

- request parents to supply a clean change of clothing for children who are toilet training
- assist the child to use the toilet
- assist the child to get dressed (and if required, change into dry clothes)
- encourage children, especially girls, to wipe front to back to reduce introducing bowel bacteria to the urinary tract
- encourage children to flush the toilet
- encourage and assist children to wash and dry their hands thoroughly as per *Handwashing Policy*

If the child has soiled or wet their clothes:

- place soiled clothes in a plastic bag or alternative and keep these in a designated area for parents to take home- rinse any wet and/or soiled clothes

- wash their own hands after helping children use the toilet
- wear disposable gloves, paper towel, disposable cloths, detergent and bleach if necessary when dealing with spills- such as urine, faeces or vomit

SOURCE

Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority. (2014).

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).

Family & Community Services. (2019). Babies and toddlers: Toilet training:

<https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/families/parenting/caring-for/toddlers>

Guide to the Education and Care Services National Law and the Education and Care Services National Regulations. (2017).

Guide to the National Quality Framework. (2017). (amended 2020).

National Health and Medical Research Council. (2013). *Staying Healthy: Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services* (5th Ed.). Australia: Commonwealth of Australia. NSW Government.

Raising Children Network (2018) Nappy rash <https://raisingchildren.net.au/newborns/health-daily-care/poos-wees-nappies/nappy-rash>

Revised National Quality Standard. (2018).

REVIEW

POLICY REVIEWED	August 2021	NEXT REVIEW DATE	August 2022
MODIFICATIONS	• additional related policies • additional information added to FDC service section re: parent communication • administration of medication forms required for application of nappy rash cream • additional section for educators related to toilet training inclusion of 'draft' Nappy change procedure as Appendix 1		
POLICY REVIEWED	PREVIOUS MODIFICATIONS		NEXT REVIEW DATE
December, 2020	• Policy purchased from Childcare Desktop		2021

Appendix 1

Nappy changing procedure

Preparation

1. Before changing a child's nappy, make sure you have everything you need within reach eg: disposable gloves, nappies, wipes, paper towel
2. Wash your hands with soap and water and dry thoroughly with paper towel
3. Place paper towel/sheet on nappy change mat
4. Put on disposable gloves on both hands

Changing

5. Lie child down on the change table
6. Always keep a hand on the child to prevent falling
7. Remove child's nappy and any other clothing with urine/faeces. (The child may urinate, so have a spare cloth handy).
8. Use the front of the nappy to wipe off any faeces
9. Use the tabs of the nappy to fold the nappy together in order to stop leakage and put in a hands-free lidded bin

10. Place any soiled clothes (including a cloth nappy) in a plastic bag
11. Using wipes, clean the child's bottom and genital area
12. Hold child's legs up with your fingers between the ankles and gently lift the child's bottom, wiping front to back
13. Remove the paper towel/mat and put in a hands-free lidded bin
14. Remove your gloves turning them inside out and dispose in the bin (Do not let your skin touch the outer contaminated gloves)
15. If nappy cream is required due to nappy rash, place on a new glove (check *Administration of Medication* form for authorisation)
16. Administer child's nappy cream using your gloved finger to apply generously
17. Dispose of glove
18. Open a clean nappy, with fastening tabs towards the top. Lift child's ankles and slip the nappy beneath their bottom
19. Fold the front flap up, tuck it firmly around baby's waist and secure each tab. Ensure not to make the nappy too tight.
20. Dress the child
21. Remove child from the change table
22. Wash your hands and the child's hands
23. Encourage the child to go and play with the other children

Cleaning

24. After each nappy change, clean the change table with detergent and warm water, rubbing with paper towel or a cloth, then rinse and dry
25. Dispose of paper towel
26. Wash and dry your hands thoroughly with soap and water
27. At the end of each day, thoroughly wash the nappy change mat and nappy change area with soap and water. Allow the change mat to dry, preferably in the sun.
28. Disinfect area with bleach solution in the event of spills (urine/faeces/vomit). Additional hygiene measures must be implemented to reduce spread of diseases such as gastroenteritis

IMPORTANT: Never leave a child unattended on a change table