



Nappy Changing

February 2025

At YMCA Childcare we aim to support children's care and welfare on a daily basis in line with their individual needs. All children need contact with familiar, consistent carers to ensure they can grow confidently and feel self-assured. Wherever possible, each child's key person will change nappies according to the child's individual needs and requirements.

Our procedure meets best practice identified by the UK Health Security Agency's *Infection prevention and control* document¹.

We will enable a two-way exchange between parents and key persons so that information is shared about nappy changing and toilet training in a way that suits the parents and meets the child's needs.

When developmentally appropriate, we work closely with parents/carers to sensitively support toilet training in a way that suits the individual needs of the child and ensures consistency between home and nursery.

We have appropriate designated facilities for nappy changing which meet the following criteria:

- Facilities are separate to food preparation and serving areas and children's play areas
- Changing mats have a sealed plastic covering and are frequently checked for cracks or tears. If cracks or tears are found, the mat is discarded.
- Clean nappies are stored in a clean dry place; soiled nappies are placed in a 'nappy sack' before being placed in the bin. Bins are foot-pedal operated, regularly emptied and placed in an appropriate waste collection area.
- Each child should have their own creams and lotions for any non-prescription cream for skin conditions e.g. Sudocrem. These are supplied by the parent/guardian and must be clearly labelled with the child's name. Prior written permission is obtained from the parent. When applying creams for rashes, a gloved hand is used.

Staff changing nappies will:

- Use a new disposable apron and pair of gloves for each nappy change and always wash hands before and after using gloves

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities>

- Clean disinfect and dry mats thoroughly after each nappy change; disposable towels/roll used to wipe down the mat must be discarded after each nappy change
- Ensure they have all the equipment they need and access to fresh water before each nappy change.
- Keep nappy bags, gloves and aprons out of reach of babies and children.

Reusable Nappies

The procedures above are also followed where children wear reusable nappies, in addition we:

- Ask the parents for a demonstration for fitting the nappy correctly
- Dispose of any soiling by flushing straight down the toilet
- Dispose the reusable nappies liner, and place in a nappy bag (and disposed of as per disposable nappies in a nappy bin)
- Store the used nappies in a sealable wet bag (including a waterproof interior and sealed prevents any smells escaping) away from children
- Provide the parents with the wet bag at the end of the day to clean the used nappies.

We wish to ensure the safety and welfare of the children whilst being changed and safeguard against any potential harm, as well as ensuring the staff member involved is fully supported and able to perform their duties safely and confidently.

We aim to support all parties through the following actions:

- Promoting consistent and caring relationships through the key person system in the nursery and ensuring all parents understand how this works and who is caring for their child
- Using this one-to-one time as a key opportunity to talk to children and help them learn, e.g. through singing and saying rhymes during the change
- Ensuring that the nappy changing area is inviting and stimulating and change this area regularly to continue to meet children's interests
- Ensuring all staff undertaking nappy changing have suitable enhanced DBS checks
- Training all staff in the appropriate methods for nappy changing
- Ensuring that no child is ever left unattended during the nappy changing time
- Making sure staff do not change nappies whilst pregnant until a risk assessment has been discussed and conducted; and that students only change nappies with the support and close supervision of a qualified member of staff
- Conducting thorough inductions for all new staff to ensure they are fully aware of all nursery procedures relating to nappy changing
- Ensuring hygiene procedures are followed appropriately, e.g. hands washed before and after nappies are changed and changing mats cleaned before and after each use

- Following up procedures through supervision meetings and appraisals to identify any areas for development or further training
- Working closely with parents on all aspects of the child's care and education as laid out in the parent and carers as partner's policy. This is essential for any intimate care routines which may require specialist training or support. If a child requires specific support, the nursery will arrange a meeting with the parent to discover all the relevant information relating to this to enable the staff to care for the child fully and meet their individual needs
- Ensuring all staff have an up-to-date understanding of child protection and how to protect children from harm. This includes identifying signs and symptoms of abuse and how to raise these concerns as set out in the child protection policy
- Balancing the right for privacy for the children with the need for safeguarding children and adults by making sure intimate care routines do not take place behind closed doors
- Camera's, tablets, mobile phones and any other image sharing or recording devices are not permitted within toilet and intimate care areas
- Operating a whistleblowing policy to help staff raise any concerns relating to their peers or managers and helping staff develop confidence in raising concerns as they arise in order to safeguard the children in the nursery
- Conducting working practice observations of all aspects of nursery operations to ensure that procedures are working in practice and all children are supported fully by the staff. This includes all intimate care routines
- Conducting regular risk assessments of all aspects of nursery operations including intimate care and reviewing the safeguards in place. The nursery has assessed all the risks relating to intimate care routines and has placed appropriate safeguards in place to ensure the safety of all involved.

Nappy Changing Procedure

- Staff members are responsible for checking that the changing area is clean and safe. Child's individual/ or supplied changing materials (nappies/wipes) are to be collected and ready for use.
- Staff must wear gloves and an apron before undressing the child.
- Once a clean nappy is in place, gloves may be removed and disposed of with nappy. Only when child has been fully re-dressed and returned to group – cleansing procedures may begin.
- Children are encouraged to wash their hands after each nappy change.
- Nappies, gloves and aprons should be disposed of in provided bins. All children's equipment should be returned to their tray or bag.
- The changing mat is to be wiped over with anti-bac spray before and after every nappy change.
- The nappy changing sheet/form is to be completed by the member of staff who changed nappy only.
- Where appropriate daily sheets / Parent Zone should be updated and any concerns reported.

- Nappy bins will be emptied by staff on a daily basis, or more frequently if they become full.
- Staff to ensure that they leave the changing facilities clean and tidy.

If any parent or member of staff has concerns or questions about nappy changing procedures or individual routines, please see the manager at the earliest opportunity.

This policy was reviewed on:	Reviewed by:	Date for next review:
21.02.2025	K. Streater	20.02.2026
Signed on behalf of YMCA Trinity Group:	A.Spence	