



Health and safety in the Children's Bathrooms and Nappy Changing Areas

At Clare House Nursery, we recognise that toileting and nappy changing routines are an important part of children's health, wellbeing and dignity. We provide clean, hygienic, well-maintained facilities that promote children's independence whilst ensuring high standards of infection prevention and control.

Nappy Changing Facilities

- Children attending full time have an individual basket or container for nappies, wipes, creams and spare clothing.
- Older babies and toddlers use a waist-height changing unit with steps where appropriate, encouraging independence and reducing unnecessary manual handling for staff.
- Reasonable adjustments are made for children with disabilities, medical needs or additional needs to ensure their care is delivered safely and respectfully.
- An adjustable height changing table is available where required to support children of all ages and abilities, ensuring their dignity, comfort and safety while also reducing manual handling risks for staff.
- Children are never left unattended on a changing mat or changing unit.
- Staff remain within arm's reach of the child at all times.
- A clean disposable paper liner is used for every nappy change.
- Changing mats are cleaned and disinfected after every use using an approved cleaning product.
- Staff wear disposable nitrile or latex-free gloves and disposable aprons for every nappy change.
- Hands are washed thoroughly before and after every nappy change in accordance with hand hygiene procedures.
- Barrier creams are only applied with written parental consent and in accordance with the child's care plan.
- Disposable nappies and wipes are securely wrapped and disposed of immediately in the designated nappy waste bin.
- Clinical or offensive waste is disposed of in accordance with the nursery's waste management procedures.

Children's Toilets

The children's toilet facilities are cleaned regularly throughout the day and receive a full documented clean at least twice daily.

This includes:

- Toilet bowls, seats, lids and cistern handles.
- Flush handles and push buttons.
- Hand basins and taps.
- Soap dispensers.
- Toilet cubicle doors, locks and handles.
- Mirrors and splashbacks.
- Floors.
- Nappy changing surfaces.
- Waste bins.

Colour-coded cleaning equipment is used throughout the nursery to prevent cross-contamination.

Separate cleaning cloths and mops are designated for toilet areas and are never used elsewhere.

Infection Prevention

- Toilet paper, liquid soap and disposable paper towels are available at all times.
- Children are encouraged and supported to wash and dry their hands independently.
- Waste bins are lined, emptied regularly and cleaned as required.
- Body fluid spillages are cleaned immediately using appropriate PPE and approved disinfectant products in accordance with the nursery's Infection Prevention and Control Procedures.
- Cleaning equipment is cleaned after use and stored safely.
- Toilet mops are colour coded (Red) and used only within toilet areas.
- Dirty cleaning water is disposed of safely via the toilet before equipment is cleaned and dried.
- All bodily fluid waste, including materials contaminated with blood, vomit, urine or faeces, must be disposed of immediately in the designated clinical waste (biohazard) bag and clinical waste bin, in accordance with the nursery's Infection Prevention and Control Procedures and COSHH guidance.

Water Safety

To reduce the risk of waterborne bacteria, including Legionella:

- Little-used toilets are flushed regularly.
- Infrequently used taps are run in accordance with the nursery's water safety procedures.
- Any concerns regarding water quality are reported immediately.

Ventilation

The children's bathrooms are well ventilated using natural or mechanical ventilation to maintain good air quality.

Artificial air fresheners are not routinely used, particularly within nappy changing areas, to reduce children's exposure to unnecessary chemicals.

Promoting a Welcoming Environment

Children's bathrooms are bright, welcoming and age appropriate.

Where displays or pictures are used, they are laminated or made from wipe-clean materials so they can be cleaned effectively as part of routine hygiene procedures.

Laundry

Any wet or soiled clothing is:

- Placed directly into a sealed waterproof bag.
- Returned to parents/carers at the end of the session.
- Not rinsed or sluiced by staff unless there is an exceptional reason identified through an individual care plan.

