



TOILET TRAINING POLICY

Toilet training can be a daunting process for parents but we believe that if a child is developmentally ready then it should be relatively easy.

If upon entry to Stepping Stones Toddler group your child is not yet toilet trained, it is essential that you begin this process as soon as your child shows interest and seems ready. We will do our best to support whatever method you choose to use at home. However, it is important that you follow through and remain consistent once the process has started. It is a vital transition in your child's life and needs to be as smooth and positive as possible.

Please send disposable nappies to school as needed.

Some advice:

- Pack at least 4 changes of clothing i.e. 4 pairs of pants or skirts, 4 tops, 4 pairs of socks; an extra pair of shoes is also good to have on hand just in case the shoes get wet as well
- Dress your child in clothing that is easy to put on and take off, i.e. pants and skirts with elastic waistbands (dungarees, one-piece outfits, jeans with buttons or tights are not practical when your child is toilet training)
- Your child needs to go to the bathroom as soon as he/she wakes up in the morning. This is a great time to have a successful experience. If your child does not want to go at home, please visit the bathroom with your child as soon as you arrive at school.
- Once training has started, your child needs to arrive at school wearing underwear.
- Please be consistent! Once you start toilet training your child, don't stop! (Not even for one day). It is confusing to your child and sends him/her mixed messages.
- If there are more accidents than not, we recommend that all training stop for 2 weeks (with no mention of going to the toilet). After 2 weeks, the process can start again.
- A lot of praise will go a long way to encourage your child to use the toilet.
- Allow your child to choose his/her own underwear when purchasing. This is a great incentive for them to wear it and they usually don't like to get them dirty. Please avoid fantasy figures and super heroes when choosing underwear – this is in keeping with Montessori practice.
- Be encouraged! Even if it takes a while for your child to catch on, be patient, this is a big step for them, and together we will make it through.