

Dear Parents and carers,

St. Mark's Elm Tree Nursery welcomes all children, regardless of their individual toileting needs. One of our priorities is to help children develop their confidence and skills within all areas of 'Health and Safe care', including remaining clean and dry throughout the day. However, we understand that all children are different and although some children may be fully toilet trained when they start nursery, some will still require adult support.

### **Accidents do happen!**

We make little fuss over accidents that do occur and ensure that they are dealt with swiftly, appropriately, sympathetically and in a calm, low-key way. If your child does have an accident at nursery, we want them to remain as comfortable as possible, therefore we will change your child's clothing and an adult will ensure that they are clean and dry. If your child has soiled and requires additional cleaning, we have fully equipped, hygienic and safe showering facilities to meet the needs of all our children.

### **Working as a partnership**

Our aim is to help all children to be able to independently use the toilet in nursery with confidence. To help make this as smooth as possible for your child, there are few things you can do to help them.

Clothing:

1. Please provide clothing that is easy to manage when toileting. Clothing with elasticated waists and no zips or buttons is most helpful. If you prefer your child to wear a school uniform, you could just replace their school trousers or tights with jogging bottoms or leggings
2. Please provide plenty of changes of pants/trousers in case of accidents. We do have spare clothes in an emergency, but it is always better for a child to wear his/her own clothes.

Routines:

1. Please ensure your child is changed or taken to the toilet at the last possible time before leaving home.
2. Children may be anxious and pre-occupied by toilet difficulties but they will usually respond to praise, encouragement and confidence building. So even if your child is having several accidents at nursery, please try and remain positive to build their self-esteem.
3. We will prompt your child to go to the toilet throughout the day but please can you talk to your child about letting an adult know if they do have an accident. This is to make sure that your child isn't wet and uncomfortable for any longer than needed.
4. We do encourage all children to 'have a go' at cleaning/wiping themselves after using the toilet, so please continue this at home. We will however, check and give assistance to ensure that your child is clean and comfortable.

**If you feel that your child has any additional needs, other than those outlined above, such as wearing a nappy or pull up, using a potty or been unable to access the nursery toilets, please ask**

**to speak to your child's nursery teacher and we will work together to meet the individual needs of your child.**

We also can point you in the right direction for further support with potty training and other related issues.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. Please complete the slip below and return by Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015

Kind Regards

Laurie Kidd, Cath Brown

Nursery Teachers

I ....., parent/carer of

..... give St. Mark's Elm Tree Primary School staff

permission to change and clean my child if required.