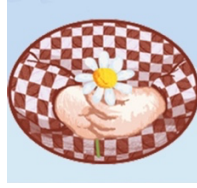


# Stone Bay Montessori and Beach School



## Nappies and Toilet Training Policy

If your child is in nappies when joining the nursery please ensure that you provide the nursery with nappies, wipes and spare clothes. We ask all parents to supply traditional nappies, NOT pull ups. We do not support the use of pull ups as they offer no benefit when potty training, only increasing confusion for the child. Changing nappies also takes up a large part of our daily routine and pull ups extend the time staff have to take on this, taking us away from interactions, learning and teaching with the children.

Wherever your child is on their toilet training journey - even if they are still in nappies, toilet training or fully toilet trained, please ensure that they are in clothing that is easy for the child to remove. Please avoid sending your child into nursery wearing skinny jeans, dungarees or challenging shoes, such as laces. We always encourage all children to help remove their clothes, even when changing nappies and after accidents, as this encourages independence. Children find it extremely difficult to help with their self-care when wearing the above items of clothing.

Part of the Montessori philosophy is to encourage all children to become as independent as possible. This includes assisting each child to manage to go to the toilet on his/her own. It is important to keep in mind that there's no 'perfect age' when every child should start toilet training. Each child is an individual and will reach milestones at different points. It is often best to wait until your child shows signs of readiness, instead of trying to jump-start the process too early or forcing your child to be toilet trained by a certain age. It is however important to try and help your child become fully independent before they transition to school where they will be expected to be fully independent.

- We are only happy to support toilet training if you are fully committing to this at home without the use of pull ups during the day time. It is vital to be consistent, please ensure you, as well as your child are fully ready for this step as it can be harder in the long term if you start and stop.
- We are happy to help assist you and your child during their transition to toilet training if they are showing signs of readiness. Some signs that indicate your child may be ready to start are:
  - they know when they've got a wet or dirty nappy
  - they get to know when they're urinating and may tell you they're doing it
  - the gap between wetting is at least an hour (if it's less, potty training may fail, and at the very least will be extremely hard work for you)
  - they show they need to go to the loo by fidgeting or going somewhere quiet or hidden
  - they know when they need to go and may say so in advance
- Potties are available if necessary, but the aim is to get the child to use the toilet as soon as possible.
- We are happy to put a nappy on your child if needed when napping
- All children must have at least two full sets of spare clothing, including tops, trousers, underwear and sock. Please be aware that children often need much more than this when first toilet training so please pack appropriately and ensure your child's clothing is labelled.