

Toilet training in the “Younger Twos” and “Older Twos” Classrooms

By the age of two, many children are beginning to show signs of toilet training readiness. It is our goal in each of our two year old classrooms to help assist you and your child during this exciting time. As you consider your child’s readiness to toilet train, please speak with your child’s teacher to develop a plan that will be most effective for your child and the preschool. There are toilet training policies that have been set in place to facilitate this process while keeping in mind the best interest of your child, his/her classmates, and the staff of the preschool.

The preschool policy for toilet training a child is that they wear a disposable diaper or pull-up with hook and loop (e.g. Velcro) sides until they have become fully toilet trained for urine **and** bowel movements. They will need to demonstrate this milestone in the preschool classroom for a period of two weeks while continuing to wear a diaper or pull-up with hook and loop sides before being able to wear underwear or panties to school.

This policy is in place to maximize instructional learning time, guided play, and classroom routine for both the teachers and the children. If excessive time is spent assisting with toileting and/or changing soiled clothing valuable time is taken away from instructional time for all students and removes a teacher from being able to supervise and interact with the remainder of the class.

This policy is also in place to maximize sanitary conditions in the classroom. Soiled clothing presents a risk for infectious diseases to spread. This policy will help us maintain infection control standards that maintain the cleanliness of the floors, furniture, and preschool inventory.

All aspects of this policy have been set in place after carefully reviewing information and standards set in place by The American Academy of Pediatrics, The Health of Children, and the requirements of other childcare facilities.

Below are some things to consider when determining your child’s readiness to toilet train.

- Is your child able to communicate to an adult (verbally or nonverbally) their need to go to the bathroom before they release their bladder or bowels? Nonverbal communication does not include grabbing or pulling at him/herself. Nonverbal communication must consist of signing, leading, or getting the teachers attention toward the bathroom as a way to alert their need to use the bathroom.
- Does your child stay dry for at least two hours at a time?
- Does your child show interest in the bathroom?
- Does your child ask to be changed when wet or dirty?
- Does your child have regular bowel movements?
- Does your child seem to be in a willing and receptive mood to toilet train?

If you answered yes to the above questions then your child may be ready to start the toilet training process!

It is important to recognize the difference between **toilet training** and **toilet trained**.

The preschool uses the following definitions from the American Academy of Pediatrics and The Health of Children:

- ❖ A child who is **toilet training** is learning the process of controlling the bladder and bowels and using the bathroom for elimination
- ❖ A child who is **toilet trained** is able to do each of the following independently and consistently:
 - Sense the urge to urinate **and** have a bowel movement
 - Stop him/herself from what he/she is doing to use the bathroom
 - Communicate to an adult his/her need to use the bathroom to urinate **and** have a bowel movement
 - Postpone elimination if they must wait for someone who is already in the bathroom

An “accident,” by definition from the American Academy of Pediatrics, is an unusual and infrequent occurrence. Our staff is aware that accidents happen and they are prepared to assist your child in a loving, respectful, and professional manner. For this reason we ask that you bring in a complete change of weather appropriate clothing that includes:

- Shirt
- Pants
- Underwear/Panties
- Socks

If we recognize that your child is having accidents frequently or is not communicating to an adult his/her need to use the bathroom for urine **and/or** bowel movements then we will not consider your child to be fully toilet trained and he/she will be switched to a diaper or pull-up with hook and loop sides until they are able to demonstrate their transition from toilet training to toilet trained for a period of two weeks while continuing to wear a diaper or pull-up with hook and loop sides. After successfully demonstrating that he/she is properly toilet trained, your child will be encouraged to wear underwear/panties to preschool again.

Each child will be changed and/or guided to use the bathroom twice during the school day. If your child is toilet training please speak with your child’s teacher to determine a schedule that works best for you and your child. If your child is fully toilet trained and is attending preschool in underwear/panties they will be expected to communicate with a teacher his/her need to eliminate between guided toileting times.

First Baptist Preschool Toileting Policy for Three-Year-Old Classrooms

To be considered for the three year old classroom your child must be fully toilet trained.

By definition from the American Academy of Pediatrics and The Health of Children:

- ❖ A child who is **toilet trained** is able to do each of the following independently and consistently:
 - Sense the urge to urinate **and** have a bowel movement
 - Stop him/herself from what he/she is doing to use the bathroom
 - Communicate to an adult his/her need to use the bathroom to urinate **and** have a bowel movement
 - Postpone elimination if they must wait for someone who is already in the bathroom
 - Pull down clothes and get them back up with only occasional assistance
 - Get on and off the toilet by him/herself
 - Independently wipe for both urine and bowel movements

*Please know we expect that **on occasion** children will need help with any of the areas listed above and for that reason we have 2 teachers in each 3-year-old classroom. If any of the listed skills shows continued regression, a staff member will be in touch with a parent.

If your child is able to do each of these things independently and consistently then he/she is considered fully toilet trained and is ready for the three-year-old classroom.

An accident (by definition from the American Academy of Pediatrics) is an unusual and infrequent occurrence. Our staff is aware that accidents happen and they are prepared to assist your child in a loving, respectful, and professional manner. For this reason we ask that you bring in a complete change of clothing that includes:

- Shirt
- Pants
- Underwear/Panties
- Socks

If we recognize that your child is having accidents frequently or is not communicating to an adult his/her need to use the bathroom to urinate **and/or** have a bowel movement then the preschool will not consider your child to be fully toilet trained, and

Each child will be guided to use the bathroom twice during the school day. Your child will be expected to communicate with a teacher his/her need to eliminate between guided toileting times.

This policy is in place to maximize instructional learning time, guided play, and classroom routine for both the teachers and the children. If excessive time is spent assisting with toileting and/or changing soiled clothing valuable time is taken away from learning for all students. This also removes one adult from directly being able to supervise and interact with the remainder of the class.

This policy is also in place to maximize sanitary conditions in the classroom. Soiled clothing presents a risk for infectious diseases to spread. This policy will help us maintain infection control standards that maintain the cleanliness of the floors, furniture, and preschool inventory.

All aspects of this policy have been set in place after carefully reviewing information and standards set in place by The American Academy of Pediatrics, The Health of Children, and the requirements of other childcare facilities.