



Family Learning - Early Years

Tips for Toilet Training



Readiness

Every child is different and develops at their own pace. Children are usually ready for toilet training when they communicate that their nappy is wet or soiled, and when they have longer periods of dryness. They also need to be able to follow some instructions. This is likely to happen between 18 months and 3 years old. Many parents/carers think about toilet training when their child is between 2, and 2 and a half.

Timing

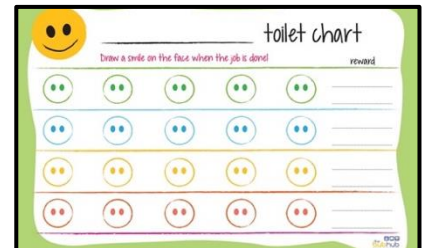
Try toilet training when there are no great disruptions or changes to your routine. Encourage your child to go to the toilet every couple of hours.

Praise and Rewards

Praise your child for using the potty or toilet, for example by saying 'well done' and clapping. Use the motivation of being 'grown up'. It may be worth offering stickers or rewards e.g. bubbles, if your child needs additional motivation.

Travelling

Try not to put your child back in nappies when you go out. Try to be consistent so you don't confuse your child. Take a potty with you on outings.



Skip the Potty

You may want to skip the potty and go straight to the toilet, particularly if your child is over 3. If you use pull-ups, encourage your child to keep these dry. They are a step forward, not replacements for nappies. Skipping pull-ups and using pants is often best.

The Bin

Don't be afraid to put heavily soiled pants in the bin! Some things just aren't worth keeping!

Stories

Share books about toileting: I Want My Potty (Little Princess) by Tony Ross, Pirate Pete's Potty by Andrea Pinnington, Lulu's Loo by Camilla Reid.

Accidents

Accidents happen. Remember to take spare clothes, including socks and shoes on journeys, and bring a bag of spare clothes to Manorfield.

Clothes

Put your child in clothes that are easy to change and avoid tights, zips and buttons. Choose clothes that are easy to wash and dry.

Manorfield

Talk to your teacher or key person about toilet training so we can support you and use consistent approaches and language. We want to help! Focus on getting your child toilet trained during the day, before concentrating on night-time.