

Andover Early Learning Preschool Toilet Training Policy

At Andover Early Learning, we are committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and developmentally appropriate learning environment. To ensure the well-being and dignity of all students and staff, all preschool-aged students enrolled in our program should be fully toilet trained prior to attending school. We understand that some students may require special accommodations. For families with students who have documented needs or circumstances requiring support, we are committed to working with you to ensure appropriate accommodations are made. Additionally, **following an accident, a student must be able to dress themselves independently.**

Definition of a Toilet-Trained Child

A toilet-trained child is a child who can:

1. communicate to teachers that he/she needs to use the restroom before it becomes urgent.
2. alert him/herself to stop an activity to go use the bathroom.
3. pull down and pull up clothing without assistance.
4. wipe him/herself after using the toilet.
5. get on and off the toilet independently.
6. wash and dry hands independently.
7. postpone going if the restroom is occupied or if the class is away from the classroom.

Staff will remind children to use the restroom frequently throughout the day, including before recess. While teachers can encourage and prompt, students must be able to complete toileting tasks independently. Staff will provide only minimal assistance for safety and supervision reasons. This protects the privacy and dignity of all children and staff.

Please note: Pull-ups or diapers are not permitted during the school day, unless special accommodations have been formally arranged.

Clothing and Preparedness

Please dress your child in clothing that is easy to manage independently. Each child should have a complete, seasonally appropriate change of clothes (including socks and underwear) stored in a gallon-sized bag in their backpack. These will remain in the backpack for use as needed.

Adjustment Period

Recognizing that transitions can be challenging, a two-week grace period will be provided beginning on the first day of school. During this time:

- Staff will closely monitor toileting progress and collect data to help identify patterns and provide support.
- Families will be notified of progress and any concerns.
- Staff will continue to encourage independence and proper bathroom routines.

Toileting Accidents: Response Plan

After the two-week grace period, the following procedures will apply:

1. **More than two accidents in one day:** A parent or guardian will be called to pick the child up.
2. **Three or more accidents in one week:** The child may be required to remain home for a period of up to two weeks until toileting independence is demonstrated. The child's spot will be held during this time.
3. **Consistent toileting concerns:** If a child consistently demonstrates difficulty with independent toileting, staff will communicate with the family. The child may be withdrawn temporarily and placed on a waitlist to return once fully trained. Tuition will not be prorated during time away.

A toileting log may be used to support communication between school and home.

Privacy and Parent Support

Children are expected to wipe themselves independently after both urination and bowel movements. In the event of an accident involving a bowel movement, parents or guardians may be required to come to school to assist their child with cleanup and changing for privacy and hygiene reasons. Staff will ensure the child is supervised and comfortable while waiting for assistance.