



SSFUSD Transitional Kindergarten Toileting Independence Policy

SSFUSD strongly urges parents to ensure their child is fully toilet independent (“potty trained”) before starting in TK. After consideration and research of factors relating to the implementation of Early Education Programs, our district will institute the following guidelines for students and families.

A toilet-independent child is identified as being able to independently accomplish the following personal tasks:

- Come to school in cloth underwear.
- Communicate restroom needs to school staff before they need to go.
- Gets on/off the toilet independently.
- Can use the toilet independently: pull down clothing, use the toilet, wipe, pull up pants, flush the toilet, wash and dry hands, and clean up after oneself.
- We understand that even toilet-independent children will occasionally have accidents. In these instances, students will *independently* change their soiled clothing.

What to do if your child is not yet fully toilet independent:

- Encourage your child with praise and patience during the learning process.
- Encourage your child to become as independent as possible with all activities of daily living.
- Reading books and talking about becoming independent with toileting.
- Practicing toileting independence at home.
- *Work towards your child being toilet independent before the start of TK.*

What to do if your child is not fully toilet independent when school starts in August:

- Communicate with school staff about where your child is on the journey to toileting independence.
- Ensure changes of clothing (including undergarments) are in your child's backpack everyday.
- Prepare to be available during the school day to come to school and assist your child during their journey to toileting independence.
- The teacher will reach out to set up a meeting during the first few weeks of school and review the student's current progress and develop an *Individualized Plan for Toileting Independence*.

Please note, this policy is not in place to shame or punish a child. Our time with your children is limited at school and our goal is to spend the majority of this time on play-based learning activities, social emotional engagement, and providing a rich learning environment. This policy is intended to ensure the safety and happiness of children and staff. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

TK Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Do TK students have to be potty trained?

A: Although students who are not potty trained cannot be denied enrollment, SSFUSD strongly urges parents to ensure their child is fully potty trained before attending TK.

Q: Will SSFUSD potty train my child?

A: No. SSFUSD teachers and school staff will not potty train your child. However, we support your child as they transition to become toilet independent.

Q: If my child has an accident, will they be sent home?

A: It depends on the extent of the accident.

- If it is a contained accident and your child can independently clean and change his or herself, school staff will assist as appropriate. School staff will not be able to clean or help change your child's clothing.
- If it is a more extensive accident, parent/ guardian or emergency contact will be called to assist or take the child home within a 30 minute time period.

Q: What are some resources I can use to help my child potty train at home?

A: Please see the resources below:

- [Is My Child Ready for Potty Training?](#)
- [Toilet Training Milestone: Getting Started & Developmental Milestone, Ready Kids Occupational Therapy](#)
- [KidsHealth-Toilet Training](#)
- [Healthy Children Potty Training](#)
- [Toileting Mastery in the School Setting](#)
- [Toilet Teaching Without Tears PDF English](#)
- [Toilet Teaching Without Tears PDF Spanish](#)
- [How we wipe our bottoms](#)
- [Free Potty Training Visual Schedules | And Next Comes L - Hyperlexia Resources](#)

Videos for children:

- [Once Upon a Potty](#)
- [Elmo's Potty](#)
- [Daniel Tiger's Stop and Go Potty](#)

Books for children:

Everyone Poops, by Taro Gomi

Oh No, Gotta Go, by Susan Middleton Elya

The Potty Book for Girls, by Alyssa Satin Capucilli

The Potty Book for Boys, by Alyssa Satin Capucilli

Daniel's Potty Time, by Jason Fruchter

The Adventures of Pee and Poo: The Fun Potty Training Book, by Dafne Nicou Engstrom

[Kids Potty Training Books in Spanish and English](#)

For more information: <https://www.ssfusd.org/apps/pages/transitional-kindergarten>