

Children's House Toileting Independence

Children enrolled in Ruffing Montessori School's Children's House program are expected to be fully independent with toileting. Toileting independence means that a child:

- Does not wear diapers or pull-ups at any time during the school day, including during rest or nap time.
- Recognizes when they need to use the bathroom and can communicate that need to an adult when necessary.
- Can independently enter the bathroom and get on and off the toilet without physical assistance.
- Can manage their clothing independently, including completely removing and replacing clothing when necessary.
- Can wipe themselves independently after urinating or having a bowel movement.
- Can flush the toilet and wash and dry their hands independently, with no more than an occasional verbal reminder.
- Does not require an adult to remain with them or provide one-on-one assistance while using the bathroom.

Occasional toileting accidents are developmentally expected and do not, on their own, mean that a child is not toileting independent. However, a child is not considered fully independent with toileting if they regularly wear a diaper or pull-up, require frequent adult reminders to use the bathroom, experience repeated accidents, or require adult assistance with toileting, wiping, or changing clothing.

If a child is not yet able to meet these expectations consistently, Ruffing may require a shortened school day or ask that the child remain at home until they have developed the toileting independence necessary to participate successfully in the Children's House program.