



## Higham St John's Primary School Toileting Policy

As your child starts school, it is expected that your child is toilet trained and has been for some time.

We expect all of our children to be able to recognise when they need the toilet and be able to use the toilet in a hygienic and appropriate manner. However, if your child is NOT toilet trained we will work with you in solving this issue as soon as possible.

If your child does have an accident or soil themselves we will contact you and ask you to come to school and change him/her. Children must be changed and then returned to school to carry on with their school day.

Accidents will be dealt with calmly, sympathetically and in a way which does not make the child feel embarrassed or that they have done something wrong. We will adopt the approach of "Never mind, it's ok. We'll try and remember next time". Soiled underwear will be put into a plastic bag to be taken home for laundering.

### **School staff will only change a child in exceptional circumstances.**

If your child has a medical condition, which could potentially cause a toileting problem, we ask that parents inform us at the earliest opportunity and we will arrange an appropriate way of how to deal with this process so that it does not affect your child's learning.

Please bear in mind that in an educational setting, children tend to be much busier than at home, playing with their friends, participating in daily activities etc. The activity level at school tends to be much higher than at home, and can therefore sometimes distract your child, which means that they will forget to use the toilet, or as is sometimes the case, decide that they don't want to stop what activity they are doing.

We understand that due to changes in routines, some children may regress. This is perfectly normal. If your child had been in pants/knickers for a significant length of time, and they then begin to have accidents, we will do our best to support you and your child through this time. They will be encouraged more than usual to use the toilet.

Most importantly, as parents and teachers we do need to remember that all children develop their toileting skills at different ages. As tempting as it may be, it is therefore not advisable to compare your own child with others.