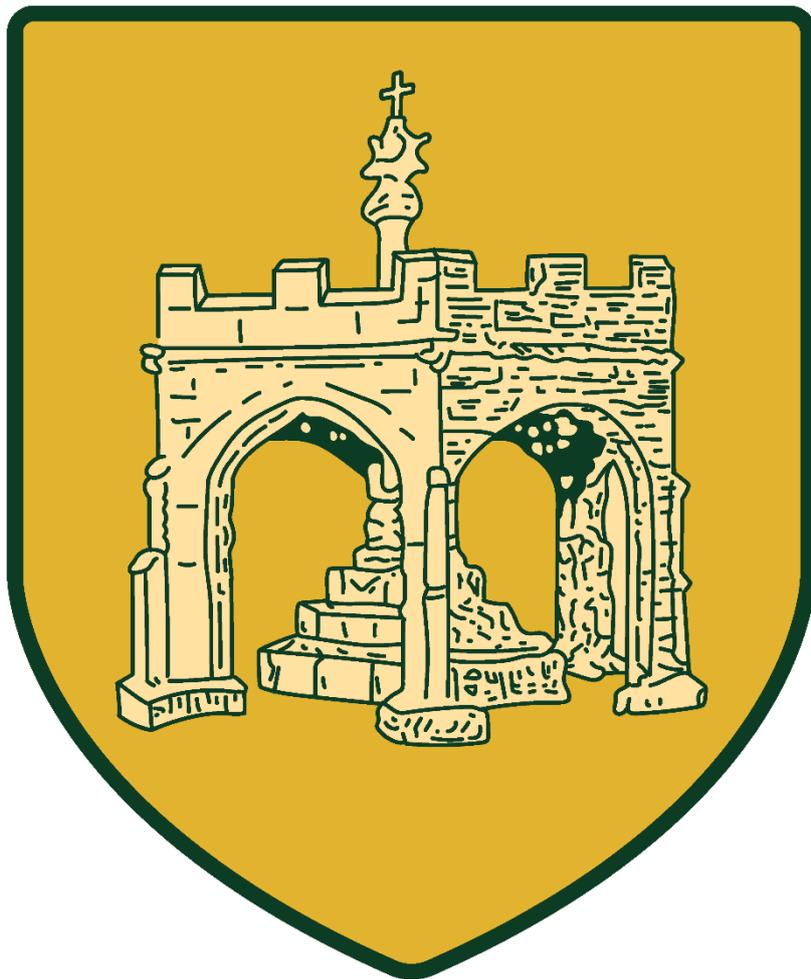




Cheddar First Preschool

Where Every Child Is at the Heart

Children's Bathrooms and Changing Areas Policy



Date Agreed	30 th January 2026
Review Date	30 th January 2027

Policy Statement

At Cheddar First Preschool, we ensure that all bathroom and changing routines are carried out in a safe, hygienic, and developmentally appropriate way. This policy follows the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS 2021) and Ofsted expectations regarding child safety, infection control, and safeguarding.

Purpose

- Maintain clean and safe changing areas and toilets.
- Protect children and staff from cross-infection.
- Ensure inclusive and safe access for all children, including those with disabilities.
- Provide clear procedures and responsibilities for staff.

Changing Areas

Facilities and Equipment

- Each child has a basket or storage area for spare clothing and nappies/pants.
- Older babies/toddlers use low changing surfaces or floor mats to avoid heavy lifting.
- Changing mats are cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- Disposable nappies/pants are disposed of in nappy bins.

Staff Practice

- Staff wear single-use gloves and aprons for soiled nappies; gloves are optional for wet nappies if no infection risk exists.
- Staff wash hands after leaving the changing area.
- Staff never leave a child unattended on a changing mat.
- Each change uses a fresh tissue roll or disposable liner on mats.
- Disabled children are provided with accessible changing areas.

Cleaning and Disinfection

- Changing mats disinfected after every use.
- Anti-bacterial sprays not used on surfaces in direct contact with skin.
- Anti-bacterial sprays kept out of children's reach.
- All other surfaces disinfected daily.
- Areas are ventilated naturally or mechanically; chemical air fresheners are not used.
- Children's Toilets and Hand Basins:

Task	Frequency / Notes
Toilets (inside and out)	Cleaned twice daily and when visibly soiled
Toilet seats and lids	Cleaned twice daily and when visibly soiled
Flush handles	Disinfected daily
Taps not in use	Run 2–3 min every 2–3 days (Legionella prevention)
Toilets not in use	Flushed weekly to prevent drying
Cubicle doors and handles	Washed weekly
Hand basins	Cleaned twice daily and when visibly soiled, use separate colour-coded cloths
Mirrors and splashbacks	Washed daily

Paper towels and bins	Replenished and emptied daily; bins lined with plastic
Floors	Washed twice daily; spills of body fluids disinfected immediately
Butler sinks and sluices	Cleaned and disinfected daily
Cleaning equipment	Mops/brushes designated for toilets or other areas only; rinsed after use and stored upright

Staff Practice

- Staff cleaning toilets wear rubber gloves.
- Staff changing children wear gloves and aprons as appropriate.
- Wet or soiled clothing is rinsed, bagged, and sent home for parents.
- Colour coding is used for cloths and mops to prevent cross-contamination.

Infection Control and Safety

- All procedures follow Public Health England (PHE) infection control guidance.
- Risk assessments consider children with disabilities or medical needs affecting toileting.
- Supervision ensures no child is left unsupervised in bathroom or changing areas.

This policy is reviewed annually and updated in line with current legislation, statutory guidance, and best practice.