

## CATHEDRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRESCHOOL TOILET TRAINING POLICY

Children enrolled in 3P and 4K must be toilet trained before attending preschool.

Children must be wearing underwear. A child having accidents daily would not be considered toilet trained. Please note that wearing pull-ups is NOT considered toilet trained.

Why do children have to be toilet trained before they begin preschool?

- There are strict standards for changing and disposing of wet or soiled diapers/pull-ups; our classrooms are not equipped for this.
- When an adult is busy changing a child's soiled clothing, it is taking away from learning time for all students. It removes one adult from the direct supervision and interaction with the rest of the class.

We do understand that even toilet-trained children will occasionally have accidents. By definition, "accidents" are unusual incidents and should happen infrequently. In these instances, the teachers will help children to change their clothes, encouraging independence as much as possible.

**A toilet-trained child is a child who can do the following:**

- Communicate to the teachers that he/she needs to go to the restroom before they need to go.
- Alert him/herself to stop what he/she is doing, to go and use the bathroom
- Wipe him/herself after using the toilet
- Get on/off toilet by him/herself
- Wash and dry hands
- Postpone going if they must wait for someone who is in the bathroom or if we are away from the classroom
- Wake up during nap time if they need to use the bathroom

We certainly will ask your child many times throughout the day, before, and after naptime if they need to use the bathroom. A teacher will assist children as needed, but children should be able to complete toileting activities independently. *(continue reading on back)*

PLEASE RETURN THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THIS TOILET TRAINING POLICY BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

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I HAVE RECEIVED AND REVIEWED THE CATHEDRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRESCHOOL TOILET TRAINING POLICY:

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

It is not uncommon for a child who is fully toilet trained to have a setback when he/she is in a new environment. Preschool staff are aware of this and will assist the children when necessary. Please have your child dressed in clothing that he/she can easily manage independently.

Please send a complete change of clothes in a labeled zip lock baggie, appropriate for the season. If your child is staying for extended care, he/she will need to leave spare set of clothes in their backpack for that classroom as well. These will be left at school and returned at the end of the school year. Parents will be notified if a child has a toileting accident.

We understand that each child arrives at this milestone differently; therefore, we will allow three weeks from the first day of school for your child to demonstrate accomplishment of this goal. However, if the situation is not manageable within the classroom environment, we will discuss the issue with the parents and there may be a need to have the child take a break from preschool for two weeks to work on potty training.

**A child will not be considered toilet trained for our preschool program if the child continues to consistently have toileting accidents after the first three weeks of school.** After the first three weeks of school, the following policies will be in place for children who have accidents:

- If one or two accidents occur in one week, the parents will be notified with the understanding that the issue needs to be addressed and corrected. The classroom teacher will also come up with a plan to help the child try to be successful and share this with the parents.
- If the child continues to have accidents despite the plan in place, the parent will be notified immediately with the understanding that the child will have to stay home for a least two weeks or longer until he/she is completely toilet trained.

Please note that this policy is not in place to shame, punish a child, or inconvenience primary caregivers. Rather, cleaning accidents in the preschool setting is time consuming, and this is time that teachers spend attending to and cleaning accidents is time that they are not spending interacting with the children and facilitating the curriculum in a safe manner. This policy is intended to ensure the safety and happiness of children and staff at Cathedral Elementary School.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. Please sign and date below that you have read and understand the toilet training policy.