

St. Marcus K3 Childcare Toilet Training Policy

Children enrolled at St. Marcus childcare must be toilet trained before attending. Children must be wearing underwear. A child having accidents daily, that cannot wipe themselves or wearing pull ups is NOT considered toilet trained.

Why do children have to be toilet trained before they attend?

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

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
- Pull down his/her clothes and get them back up without assistance
- Wipe him/herself after using the toilet
- Get on/off the toilet by him/herself
- Wash and dry hands
- Postpone going if they must wait for someone who is in the bathroom or if they are away from the classroom
- Wake up during nap time should they need to use the bathroom

We certainly will ask your child many times throughout the day and before nap time if they need to use the bathroom. A teacher will assist with clothing items as needed, but children should be able to complete toileting activities independently. 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 monitor students to change their clothes, encouraging independence as much as possible. In the event of an accident that is beyond the scope of the classroom teacher to assist the child in cleaning themselves, the parent or guardian will be notified and will need to pick up the student within the hour for the rest of the day. This is an issue which protects all concerned.

It is not uncommon for a child who is fully toilet trained to have a setback when he/she is in a new environment. St. Marcus K3 childcare staff are aware of this. Please have your child dressed in clothing that he/she can easily manage independently. Please send a complete change of clothes appropriate for the season. These will be left at school in case of accidents, and returned at the end of the school year. In the event that a child does not have a clean change of clothes, St. Marcus staff will seek to provide a change of clothing for the student. If it becomes chronic, that a student does not have a change of clothing when an infrequent accident occurs, the parent or guardian will be called to pick up the child for the remainder of the day.

We understand that each child arrives at this milestone differently, therefore we will allow 4 weeks from the first day of school for your child to demonstrate accomplishment of this goal. However, if the situation is frequent and not manageable within the classroom environment, we will discuss the issue with the parents and reserve the right to suspend attendance of the child at such time. This would result in the loss of a seat in the St. Marcus K3 childcare Program.

A child will not be considered toilet trained for the K3 childcare program if the child continues to consistently have toileting accidents after the first 4 weeks of school.

After the first 4 weeks of school, the following policies will be in place for children who have accidents:

- If two accidents occur in one week, the parents will be notified with the understanding that the issue needs to be addressed.
- If three or more accidents occur in one week, the parent will be notified that the child will have to stay home until he/she is completely toilet trained.
- If multiple accidents occur in one day, the parent will be notified and the child will have to stay home until he/she is completely toilet trained.

If a child misses more than a consecutive week of St. Marcus childcare due to not being potty trained, the student will no longer have a seat at St. Marcus childcare.

Please note that this policy is in place not to shame or punish a child or inconvenience primary caregivers. Rather, cleaning accidents in the K3 childcare setting is time consuming, and this time that teachers spend attending to and cleaning accidents is time that they are not spending interacting with all children. This policy is intended to ensure the safety and happiness of children and staff at St. Marcus K3 childcare program.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.