**46b. Potty/Toilet training**

At Jelly Bears Day Nursery staff are experienced in helping children to potty train. If you think your child is developmentally ready to start using the potty we will endeavour to support you and your child to the best of our ability. Potty training can be a very daunting process for parents but please be assured that our staff will work with you every step of the way to ensure the process is a smooth one. Please be aware that it can take longer for a child to potty train at Nursery as there is so much more happening within the environment then at home.

This is why we ask you to start potty training your child at home for a short period before it is introduced at Nursery. Please be aware of the following protocol that your child’s key person will follow:

* Once you have introduced potty training to your child at home, we will start encouraging your child to sit on the toilet (child size) at Nursery. We will try to copy your routine as closely as possible to maintain continuity for your child.
* We will take the children to the toilet at regular intervals throughout the day. We will ask the children often if they need to use the toilet and have visual prompts and reminders in their room. We will use a variety of techniques to praise and encourage your child to use the toilet successfully e.g. sticker system.
* We request that your child arrives at Nursery in ‘pull up pants’ to encourage them to use them as ‘pants/knickers’ when using the toilet rather than taking off a nappy. The ‘pull up pants’ phase should only last a week or so as we have found them to be counterproductive after such time.
* If your child is dry and asking for the toilet, we strongly recommend you don’t use ‘pull up pants’
* Your child needs to wear suitable clothing when toilet training (no belts, dungarees or vests with poppers).
* Whilst your child is toilet training their key worker will keep you informed on their progress. When you feel your child is ready to wear knickers/pants to Nursery we ask that you discuss this with your child’s key person.
* At first, we will put your child back in pull-ups for relaxation and sleep time, until your child is dry throughout the day
* Accidents will be dealt with calmly, sympathetically and in a way which does not make the child think they have done wrong.
* We request that if your child is toilet training you bring in sufficient spare clothes for the staff to dress your child if they should happen to have an accident. (This includes spare socks).
* We understand that due to changes in routines or at home some children may regress. If your child has been dry for a while and they begin to have accidents your key person will work with you and support your child through this time.

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| **This policy was adopted on** | **Signed on behalf of the nursery** | **Date for review** |
| *October 2024* |  | *October 2025* |