

## FACILITIES - TOILET & HAND BASINS

### **POLICY**

Toilet facilities should:

- Ensure the health and well being of children.
- Ensure minimal delay for children requiring the use of a toilet.
- Enable independent access.
- Provide respect and dignity to children.

The provision of toilet facilities and hand basins at a suitable height for children is to:

- Increase the confidence and skills of children.
- Encourage hand washing after toileting.
- Decrease cleaning and the frequency with which adults must assist children onto the toilet.
- Decrease the necessity for lifting thus recognising occupational health and safety issues.

For these reasons it may be appropriate for the Educator or parent to provide a potty, junior toilet seat and/or firm, non slip step.

To minimise the risk of children being scalded, their access to hot water should be under adult supervision.

### **PROCEDURE**

1. A Family Day Care home must have toilet and hand washing facilities, which are safe and appropriate to the ages of the children in care, and facilities be cleaned between usage.
2. A safe step or low stool must be provided for children too small to independently reach toilet or hand basin.
3. Hot water supply should be set at around 55°C to prevent scalds, and allow children to develop good handwashing practice.

Source: Mt Alexander FDC - Handbook  
Carer Agreement  
National Law Regulations and Standards Guide  
"Staying Healthy in Childcare", 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, NHMRC  
Advice from Environmental Health Dept, Shire of Mt Alexander.

Reviewed September 2005, December 2008, July 2009, July 2012