



At Stretton Lodge, we care for children under the age of two and ensure their health, safety and well-being through the following:

Covid – 19 amendment

Children will remain within their own groups and will not be allowed to mix whilst at nursery.

- Children under the age of two have separate base rooms and are cared for in small intimate groups. We ensure that younger children have opportunities to have contact with older children whilst at nursery
- Care is taken to ensure that babies and toddlers do not have access to activities containing small pieces, which may be swallowed or otherwise injure the child
- The environment and equipment are checked daily before the children access the area. This includes checking the stability of cots and areas around, low/highchairs and ensuring restraints on these on these, pushchairs and prams are intact and working
- Doors are fitted with viewing panels to ensure the safety of children
- Outdoor shoes are removed or covered when entering the day nursery room. Staff remind parents and visitors to adhere to this procedure
- Babies and toddlers have their nappies changed according to their individual needs and requirements, and by their key person wherever possible
- Information will be shared between parents and the key person about nappy changing and toilet training in a way that suits the child
- Potties are washed and disinfected after every use. Changing mats are wiped with anti-bacterial cleanser before and after every nappy change

Caring for Babies and Toddlers

Stretton Lodge
Day Nursery & Pre-School



- Each baby must have his/her own bedding which is washed at least weekly and when necessary
- Cot mattresses meet safety standards
- Children under two years are not given pillows, cot bumpers or any soft furnishings in order to prevent risk of suffocation
- We follow all cot death prevention/safety guidelines. Non mobile babies are always laid to sleep on their back, with their feet touching the foot of the cot
- Sheets or thin blankets will come no higher than the baby's shoulders, to prevent them wriggling under the covers. Non mobile babies will have the covers securely tucked in so they cannot slip over the baby's head
- Children's individual sleeping bags may be used in consultation with parents. These are washed at least weekly and when necessary
- Cots are checked before use to ensure no items are within reach i.e. hanging over or beside the cot (e.g. fly nets, cables)
- All High-chairs used for feeding are fitted with restraints and these are used at all times. Restraints are removed and washed weekly or as needed.
- High chair restraints must be fastened **over** the top of all clothing and bibs in case it is necessary to remove them quickly
- No child is ever left unattended during nappy changing time
- Babies are **never** to be left propped up with bottles as it is both dangerous and inappropriate
- Sleeping children are supervised at all times
- Checks on sleeping babies are completed every 10 minutes.

Caring for Babies and Toddlers

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Day Nursery & Pre-School



- Staff do not change nappies whilst pregnant until a risk assessment has been discussed and conducted. Students only change nappies with the support and close supervision of a qualified member of staff
- Where food / formula milk is prepared for babies (under 12 months) there is a separate area within the kitchen which is specifically designated for this preparation
- Bottles of formula milk are only made up as and when the child needs them. These should be cooled to body temperature, which means they should feel warm or cool, but not hot, and should be tested to ensure they are an appropriate temperature for the child to drink safely
- Following the Department of Health guidelines, we only use recently boiled water to make formula bottles (left for no longer than 30 minutes to cool). We do not use cooled boiled water that is reheated
- Bottles and teats are thoroughly cleaned with hot soapy water and sterilised after use (they will not be washed in the dishwasher)
- Bottles are disposed of after two hours
- We will make available an area for mothers who wish to breastfeed their babies or express milk
- Labelled mothers' breast milk is stored in the fridge
- If dummies are used they will be cleaned and sterilised. This also applies to dummies which have been dropped
- All dummies are stored in each child's own bag/box to ensure no cross-contamination occurs
- Children transfer to the older age group when assessed as appropriate for their age/stage following our agreed transition and settling procedures

