



SAINT TIMOTHY CATHOLIC PRESCHOOL BATHROOM INDEPENDENCE POLICY

Children enrolled in the preschool program must be independent in the bathroom and wear underwear to school each day. Bathroom independence is a requirement to ensure that the health and sanitation standards for the classroom are maintained, and that the learning and needs of the full class can be addressed.

An independent child is one who can:

1. Communicate to the teachers that he/she needs to go to the bathroom before they go
2. Stop what they are doing to use the bathroom
3. Pull down his/her clothes and get them back on without assistance
4. Wipe him/herself after using the toilet
5. Get on/off the child-sized toilet by him/herself
6. Wash and dry hands
7. Be able to manage a brief wait period if bathroom is in use or class is outside
8. Be willing to use the bathroom for all toileting needs and follow teacher instructions for bathroom use

Bathroom “accidents” are unusual incidents and should happen infrequently. In the case of a urine accident, the staff will coach/assist children in changing their clothes while encouraging independence as much as possible. Bowel movement accidents provide greater disruption to the school day, and parents may be called to school to change their child and/or take them home. At staff discretion and when staffing/scheduling allows, children may be changed by school personnel after a bowel movement accident. Bathroom accidents that occur during naptime will be handled on an individual basis.

As children transition to a new school year and learning environment, those who are fully toilet trained may experience setbacks. Teachers, parents and students will work together to identify possible causes and move toward a solution. However, if the situation is not manageable within the classroom environment, the staff reserves the right to suspend attendance of the child with no reduction in tuition while toilet training is undertaken at home.

The health of our students and their ability to participate fully in the school day is a priority of the preschool program. All matters relating to bathroom independence will be weighed with consideration to the class environment, daily schedule and, ultimately, the best interest of the students in each class. The preschool teaching team and director reserve the right to make final decisions about student attendance and participation in the school day based on student bathroom independence.

Students with diagnosed disabilities that qualify for accommodations relating to bathroom use will be supported in accordance with the current student support plan on file.