

SAINT TIMOTHY CATHOLIC PRESCHOOL BATHROOM INDEPENDENCE POLICY

Children enrolled must be independent in the bathroom and wear underwear to school. This policy is in place because when a staff member is supervising a child who is changing clothes, it removes that adult from directly supervising and interacting with the rest of the class.

An independent child is one who can do the following:

1. Communicate to the teachers that he/she needs to go to the restroom before they need to go.
2. Alert him/herself to stop what he/she is doing, to go and use the bathroom.
3. Pull down his/her clothes and get them back up without assistance.
4. Wipe him/herself after using the toilet.
5. Get on/off the toilet by him/herself.
6. Wash and dry hands.
7. Postpone going if a bathroom is not immediately available.
8. Be willing to use the classroom bathroom.

It is not uncommon for a child who is fully toilet trained to have a setback when he/she is in an unfamiliar environment and we understand that each child arrives at this milestone differently. Therefore, we will allow 2 weeks from the first day of school for children to demonstrate accomplishment of this goal. However, if the situation is not manageable within the classroom environment, we will discuss the concern with parents and reserve the right to suspend attendance of the child.

"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. For bowel movement accidents, parents may be called to school to change their child and/or take them home. At staff discretion, children may be changed by school personnel after a bowel movement accident. Children are removed from the classroom while waiting for a parent.

Teachers, parents and students will together seek to understand the nature of accidents and work together on a solution. Nap time accidents will be handled on an individual basis.

After the first 2 weeks of school, the following policies will be in place for children who have accidents outside of nap time.

1. If one or two accidents occur in one week, the parent will be notified with the understanding that the issue needs to be addressed and corrected. Progress must be demonstrated.
2. If three or more accidents occur in one week, parents will be notified with the understanding that if the issue isn't corrected by the end of the next week, the child will have to stay home at least one week or longer until he/she is completely potty-trained. Tuition will not be pro-rated during this time. Return-to-school is contingent upon the judgement of the director.
3. If multiple accidents occur in one day, the parent will be notified and the child will remain home until fully independent with no tuition reduction. Return-to-school is contingent upon the judgement of the director.
4. If a child's refusal to use the bathroom interferes with his/her comfort in the classroom or availability for learning, the child will need to remain home until fully independent with no tuition reduction. Parents will coordinate with the director to facilitate the child's return to school.

Extenuating medical circumstances may permit modifications to the policy by the director.