

Is your child acknowledging when they have been to the toilet in their nappy or showing interest in using the potty or toilet? If so, it may be the perfect time to start this next milestone in their development.

At Tall Trees we are happy to help in this next step but cannot take the lead in potty training your child.

Your child should start this journey at home and be comfortable using the potty/toilet before asking them to do this at the setting. There are many distractions for your child when they are at nursery which will cause accidents to be more frequent and can in turn can cause them to feel that they are failing if you move them on before they are ready. Your child needs to be continuously dry for a few days before wearing pants at nursery.

However, accidents will happen, and this is normal. When at home make sure for the first few weeks the potty is very close to the child, preferably in the same room. They will need to be reminded around every 45 minutes that the potty is close and asked repeatedly if they need to go. Once your child has mastered this stage then try moving them on to different scenarios, ensuring they use the potty before they go outside and once they return. This will help the control to become longer and for you to introduce more activities whilst continuing to encourage them to use the toilet or potty. Keep the routine consistent.

Once they have mastered the wees at home, we are happy for them to come to nursery in pants and require that pants are to be worn at all times for hygiene reasons. We will continue to encourage the child to sit on the potty or toilet every 45 minutes until they are comfortable to go independently. You may have stopped this stage at home but for your child to be successful at nursery we will need to help prompt them due to the numerous distractions they will encounter. We will only use cheering and claps as a means of rewarding them during training and cannot award stickers or sweet treats. Our methods need to be consistent for all children, as many tend to be training at the same time.

Please do not send your child into nursery with clothing such as vests with poppers, dungarees, or belts whilst they are potty training or beyond.

During the day if your child has 3 accidents, we will put them into a pull up but continue to take them to the potty or toilet. We do not want to set your child up to fail and having continuous accidents can regress them, not just here, but also at home. We will simply start again the next time they are in the setting with no pressures put upon them. We will use Famly to log any successful visit to the potty/toilet, or indeed any accidents, so you will be able to see your child's progress during the day. Once your child has accomplished this step, we will only inform you if they have had an accident.

Please remember to be calm and patient, all children will master this skill at different times, there is no right or wrong length of time. Remember to celebrate every success, no matter how small, and always reassure your child.