

Potty training

Upon the arrival of potty training time I will assist in helping with this, provided the child is at least 18 months of age, is showing signs of readiness (able to indicate the need to use the bathroom, is interested in staying dry, is dry for long periods of the day ,etc), and the parents initiate the process at home first, either over a weekend or during a vacation. Please keep in mind that the activity level here can distract your child from responding to an urge to use the potty, more so than at home. Therefore, once potty training has begun the child needs to be in training pants untill your child can and will announce that he/she needs to use the bathroom and can control his/her bladder and bowels for a few minutes beyond that announcement.

During potty training the child needs to be dressed in user friendly clothing as much as possible. The best items are shorts and pants with elastic waists. Try to avoid really tight clothing, pants with snaps and zippers and overalls as often as you can. Your child will want to help pull pants,etc. up and down, plus clothing with too many gadgets makes it harder to get the child on the potty in time.

During potty training you are asked to supply me with 3 extra full changes of clothing, including socks and training pants.

Illness

Please do not bring your child to care if he/she is ill. Masking your child's symptoms with over the counter medication (i.e. tylenol) before care will be grounds for termination of contract. The health department discourages the admittance of any child into a family daycare home or center who exhibits any of the following symptoms. therefore it is the policy of Merri's Home Daycare to not except for care any child who exhibits the following:

- * unusual rash**
- * fever over 100 degrees- child needs to be fever free for 24 hours before returning to care**
- * runny nose with colored discharge**
- * excessive coughing**
- * diarrhea within last 24 hours**
- * discharge from eyes or ears**
- * vomiting- do not bring your child if he/she has vomited within past 24 hours**
- * lice- cases of lice must be treated and child must be lice and nit free before returning to care.**
- * communicable diseases- all cases require notification of parents of all children in my care as well as notification of the health department.**

Children with a mild cold can attend care if they can participate in normal activities (If the child is too sick to go outside, He/She is too sick to be at the daycare). They will be monitored and if the cold reaches the point that the child will not play, has a continuous cough or the nose secretions are not clear, then the parent will be required to pick the child up and keep the child home untill they have been symptom free for 24 hours.