

## StMM Potty Training Policy

Children enrolled in PK3 and PK4 at StMM must be potty trained before attending preschool. Children must be wearing underwear with very few accidents. A child having accidents daily would not be considered potty trained. Please note that wearing pull ups isn't considered being potty trained.

Why do children have to be potty trained before they begin preschool?

There are strict standards for changing and disposing of wet or soiled diapers.

The classrooms are not equipped for diaper changing.

When an adult is busy changing a child's diaper or soiled clothing, it is taking away from learning time for all students and it removes one adult from the direct supervision of and interaction with the rest of the class.

We do understand that even potty trained children will occasionally have toileting accidents. By definition, "accidents" are unusual incidents and should happen infrequently. In these instances, the teachers will help children to change their clothes, encouraging independence as much as possible.

A potty trained child is a child 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. (With minimal assistance for 3 year olds.)
5. Get on/off the toilet by him/herself.
6. Wash and dry hands.
7. Postpone going if they must wait for someone who is in the bathroom or if we are away from the classroom.
8. Awaken during nap time should they need to use the bathroom.

We certainly will ask your child many times throughout the day and always before nap time if they need to use the bathroom. A teacher will assist children as needed, but children should be able to complete toileting activities independently. This is an issue which protects all concerned.

It is not uncommon for a child who is fully toilet trained to have a setback when he/she is in a new environment. Preschool Staff are aware of this and will assist the children when necessary. Please dress your child in clothing that can be undone and changed easily. Please send a complete change of clothes appropriate for the season. These will be left at school in case of accidents, and returned at the end of the school year. Parents will be notified if a child has a toileting accident.

We understand that each child arrives at this milestone differently, therefore we will allow 6 weeks from the first day of school for your child to demonstrate accomplishment of this goal. However, if the situation is not manageable within the classroom environment, we will discuss the issue with the parents and reserve the right to suspend attendance of the child at such time.

If your child is not completely potty trained as described above when preschool starts, the following options are available:

1. You may withdraw your child from preschool and place their name at the top of our waiting list. Registration and supply fees are non-refundable; however, if your child is re-enrolled in our program at a later date during the same school year, you will not need to pay these fees again. If you choose this option, we cannot guarantee that a space will be available.
2. You may pay 1/2 tuition to hold your child's spot (for up to two months) until potty training has been completed.

A child will not be considered toilet trained for our preschool program if the child continues to consistently have toileting accidents (excluding nap time accidents) after the first 6 weeks of school.

After the first 6 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.
2. If three or more accidents occur in one week, the parent will be notified with the understanding that if the issue isn't corrected by the end of the second 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. Parents should contact the director to facilitate the child's return to school.
3. If multiple accidents occur in one day, the parent will be notified on that day; and if not corrected by day three, 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. Parents should contact the director to facilitate the child's return to school.

We will work with parents whose children have habitual nap time accidents on an individual basis.