

Clothing & Belongings Policy

Children should arrive dressed for play. We like to have fun! Having fun involves outdoor play and lots of messy activities, so make sure that your child is dressed appropriately. Please don't dress your child in their best clothing or expect them to be spotless when you arrive to pick them up, if we are going on an outing somewhere that requires your child to be dressed in something other than play clothes we shall inform you in advance so that you have the option to include another outfit for such a purpose. Clothing should be comfortable and seasonally appropriate for outdoor play everyday of the year.

Remember that we use our own washable nappies here at Grafton Nursery with your permission and to allow for this when dressing your child. Trousers and leggings which are tight or snug over disposable nappies, will **not** fit over our washable nappies. We would prefer that once your child is being toilet trained that you do not send them in dungarees, jumpsuits or trousers with belts, as they are too difficult for your child to undo unaided. Please read our full toileting policy for details.

Make sure you include warm hats, mittens, boots and coats for cold weather and sun hats and sandals or canvas shoes for warmer weather. Please do not send you child over two years with shoes with laces or buckles, unless they are able to fasten them themselves. The children take their shoes off and on frequently during the day when going from inside to outside. So they need to be able to tie the shoelaces themselves or wear shoes with Velcro fastenings which they can operate.

We need one pair of wellington boots, a lightweight raincoat (pack-a-mac style) and sun hat left here at Grafton Childcare at all times, labelled clearly with your child's name, to cover all aspects of the English weather.

We are very happy for children to bring in items from home for show and tell, the children really enjoy the opportunity to stand up during our circle time sessions and chat about the treasures they have brought in from home. It could be a new doll; car; dinosaur; some shells; some photos of relatives or best of all something related to our current mini topic or theme. Please do not take a toy away from your child at the door when dropping off "if" it is going to distress them, once your child has come in and settled for the morning we will then ask your child to pop the item into their bag and 99% of the time they are very happy to do so, without any stress.

We are not responsible for any loss or breakage of personal items **including clothing, toys and jewellery**. All personal items should be clearly marked with your child's name we highly recommend the Sharpie Laundry Maker Pens they are fantastic for this purpose.

Could we make a small plea that parents check the contents of their child's bag regularly for plastic bags with soiled clothing, pieces of artwork which we have sent home and party invitations etc. Please remember to restock your child's bag with a new stock of 5 or 6 disposable nappies at least once a week and especially if we have sent your child home in a

Grafton Washable Nappy as this means we have ran out of your stock of disposables, thank you.

We are very happy for your child to bring items from home often called comforters, however please please please can you remember that it needs to fit into your child's Grafton Bag along with everything else including their blue Book Bag. We do not have room for large cot blankets, large cuddly toys and comfort cushions. We are very sorry and hope you can appreciate that our storage area is very limited we need to stop the overspill of items which won't fit into some children's Grafton Bag as the overspill is become a hazard. So when packing your child's Grafton Bag please only include small taggy blankets and smaller soft toys etc which your child may wish to have during nap times etc thank you.

Sometimes a child or staff member may accidentally place an item of clothing into the wrong child's bag, if you should notice this please make us aware as soon as possible to save any undue distress for all parties, thank you. However we cannot be responsible for lost items of clothing or footwear, especially those which are not labelled. We often spend a huge amount of time trying to repatriate items of clothing, which have not been labelled. We have a lost property bin which is kept in the conservatory parents can look through it themselves to see if any of the unlabelled items belong to their children and thus free up staff time. Sainsbury's, Tesco, and WHSmiths all sell Laundry Marker Pens in their stationery isles we highly recommend all parents purchase one and save us all the stress involved in trying to locate and repatriate unlabelled belongings, thank you for your continued cooperation.