

Seedlings Room - Infant Breast or Bottle Feeding Policy

The children's individual needs will be discussed with parents to ensure that they are met. Feeds will be prepared by staff as and when they are required by the babies and not as part of the nursery routine.

Breast Milk Policy - Appletree participates in the active encouragement of mothers to breast feed their babies. Therefore, the Nursery has put into place a Policy and associated Procedures to detail those arrangements necessary for the safe storage and use of breast milk. Containers of Breast milk should be brought to the Nursery in a sterilized bottle or in a sterile breast milk bag, suitable for the purpose of refrigerated storage and clearly marked with the infant's full name.

Bottles will be returned to parents/carers at the end of each nursery day. The containers will be washed but not sterilized. Parents must ensure that the container is sterilized before re-use. Storage Breast milk should be provided on a daily basis, unused milk will be discarded at the end of each feed after a period of 1 hour. To avoid waste parents are requested to supply small batches.

General Handling Carers will ensure that the following Policy is strictly adhered to;
Breast milk is to be kept sterile at all times
DO NOT leave breast milk at room temperature for more than 1 hour
DO NOT heat breast milk on the stove or in the microwave, the bottle warmer is to be utilised.

Nursery Breast Milk Procedures

The following procedures are to be used by all staff handling, storing or using breast milk to feed an infant:

On Delivery: Ensure that the parent has provided the breast milk in an airtight bottle or pouch clearly marked with the child's name. Breast milk is to be placed at the back of the fridge where it is the coolest prior to feeding an Infant with breast milk.

Before feeding an infant with breast milk, ensure that:

A positive identification of the child is made, the date is checked and the correct breast milk is fed to the correct child.

Two signatures are noted on the bottle chart.

Staff are provided with personal protective equipment (gloves and aprons) to wear when feeding a child should they wish to wear them. (Not mandatory)

Warming Breast Milk - Breast milk is to be warmed to a suitable body temperature to take the 'edge' off the milk by placing it in a bottle warmer

The milk is then to be checked for temperature to ensure that the milk is cool enough for the baby to drink, using a temperature probe. Ideally 37 degrees Celsius or 99 degrees Fahrenheit. The temperature is noted on the sheet.

Policies and Procedures 2023

Feeding an Infant with Breast Milk - Feed the baby as normal using a suitable bottle and teat
Ensure that the baby is 'winded' correctly.

After feeding an infant with Breast Milk - Unused breast milk (in that bottle) is to be discarded after 1 hour.

Record feed time and amount taken by the infant

Discard gloves and apron if used

At the end of the day return all thawed and unused breast milk stored for that child. Breast milk is a bodily fluid, which carries with it a (small) risk of infection and/or disease.

The Nursery Policy is to advise staff handling or carrying out the feeding of breast milk to protect themselves against the risks of infection by;

Implementing good hygiene practices

Using the PPE provided (advisable but not mandatory)

Avoiding actual contact with the breast milk

Only employees that have been trained in safer food better business or have undertaken training by management will undertake feed preparation duties

Formula Milk Policy

Those parents whom have requested their child to have formula milk at nursery must either;

Provide either: a carton of ready to use formula milk, a sealed pre- prepared formula powder as originally purchased or pre prepared- formula powder in a sealed airtight container (with suitable pre- measured compartments which is named) alongside a suitable named bottle

In the above circumstances the staff must ensure that if a parent provides separate bottle and formula powder the parent must state in writing the amount of boiled water that is to be used to make the formula milk i.e.

If a baby is provided with enough powder for 6 oz of milk then the written permission must state 6 oz of water.

This written permission can be included in either the child's enrolment form or daily record book.

Provide suitable ready-made formula milk in cartons, which can be opened at nursery then discarded at the end of the day.

The formula milk carton is to be warmed as advised on the carton itself.

Formula Milk Procedures

The following procedures are to be used by all staff, handling, storing or using formula milk to feed a baby:

On Delivery: Ensure that the parent has provided the powder in an airtight container /or a carton of formula milk and a pre-sterilised bottle clearly marked with the babies name prior to feeding a baby with formula milk

Before feeding a child with formula milk, ensure that;

A positive identification of the baby is made, and the correct formula milk is fed to the correct baby

Preparing Formula Milk

To prepare a babies formula milk staff must;

Utilise gloves and disposable apron (advisable but not mandatory)

Read thoroughly the parents instructions to indicate the amount of water that is to be boiled

Boil the kettle and leave to cool slightly

Wash hands

Measure the correct quantity of water into the bottle

Allow the water to cool for at least 20 minutes so that it reaches a temperature of approximately 70 degrees. Powder can be added straight away but not left for more than 30 minutes.

Mix into the water the correct measurement of formula powder from the premeasured powder container. When scooping the powder use a straight clean knife to level the scoop. The scoops should not be heaped.

Attach the sterilised teat and shake the bottle vigorously

The milk is then to be tested using a temperature probe so that it is at body temperature.

Ideally 37 degrees Celsius or 99 degrees Fahrenheit. The temperature is noted on the sheet. If the milk is still too warm to feed the baby with, hold the bottle under cool running water until it cools.

Feeding a baby with Formula Milk

Feed the baby as normal using their bottle and teat

Ensure that the baby is 'winded' correctly After feeding a baby with formula milk

Discard any milk that has not been used within 2 hours

Record feed time and amount taken by the baby

Staff Responsibilities

Staff will follow the correct procedures for handling either formula or breast milk and will adhere to both Food Hygiene standards and Health and Safety guidelines.

