Nursery Room - Infant Breast or Bottle Feeding Policy

Approved by:	LGB	**Date:** 18/7/23	
Next review due by:	July 2024	**Author:** Dawn Rogers	

PRAISE VALUE
Empathy

Bible Reference
Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation
Peter 2:2

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

Breast Milk Policy

The Pre-school and Nursery 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. The procedures are in line with the Start for Life information on preparing bottles.

Containers

- Breast milk should be brought to the Nursery in a sterilized bottle, 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.

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

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 clearly marked with the child's name and dated
- 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

Warming Breast Milk

- Always wash your hands first and clean surfaces
- 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
- DO NOT HEAT breast milk on the stove or in the microwave.
- Feed the baby as normal using a suitable bottle and teat
- Ensure that the baby is 'winded' correctly.
- Unused breast milk after a feed is to be discarded after 1 hour
- Record feed time and amount taken by the infant on Famly
- After final feed or at the end of the day discard all thawed and unused breast milk stored for that child

Hygiene

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 where necessary
- Avoiding actual contact with the breast milk
- Only employees that hold a level 2 food hygiene can prepare breast milk

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 prepared- formula powder in a sealed airtight container (with suitable pre- measured compartments which is named) alongside a suitable named bottle.
- If a baby is provided with enough powder for 6 oz a parent must state this.
- 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 from home 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;

- Wash your hands and clean surfaces
- Read thoroughly the parents instructions to indicate the amount of water that is to be boiled

- Boil the kettle and leave to cool slightly
- Measure the correct quantity of water into the bottle
- Allow the water to cool for at least 20 minutes so that a reaches a temperature of approximately 70 degrees
- Mix into the water the correct measurement of formula powder from the premeasured powder container
- 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.
- 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 1 hour
- Record feed time and amount taken by the baby on Famly

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.
- Staff will adhere to this policy and its procedures.
- Staff will record milk preparation times
- Staff must record the amount of formula or breast milk consumed by the baby on Famly.
- During a feed: Babies will never be left unsupervised. A member of staff (if possible their key person) should hold the baby and sit on the armchair in the baby room.
- Staff are not required to wear gloves or aprons when feeding bottles to babies as it is important to make them feel comfortable and to feed them in a 'home like' environment.