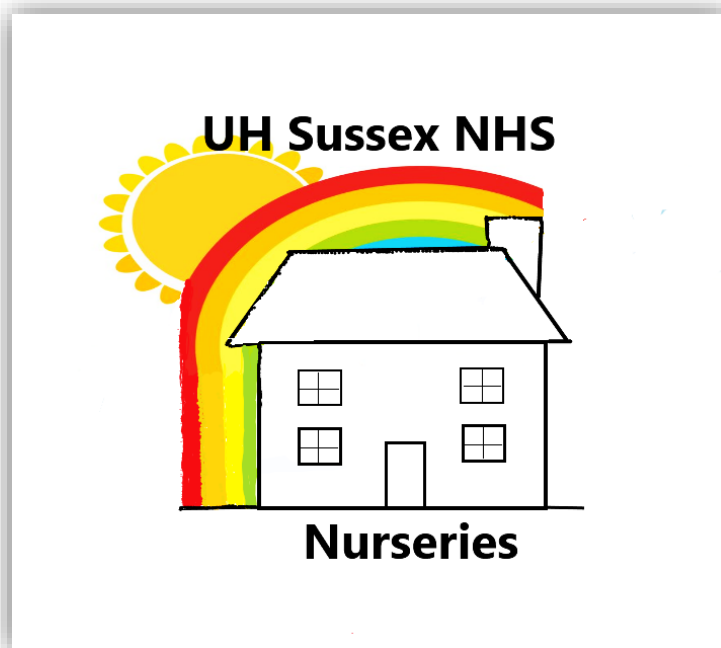


TRUST POLICY

Nursery Handbook – Child Clothing Policy



Approval		
Director approval	Date approved:	13 th March 2026
Ratification		
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2.0				
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1. Introduction

The University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust nurseries request that children should attend the session in clothing suitable for their busy day. Clothing should be loose, comfortable clothes that wash easily. Due to the diverse learning experiences and activities, we would highly recommend that children do not attend in expensive clothing and footwear.

2. Staff Approach to Children's Clothing

Where possible staff will ensure that children are dressed appropriately for indoor and outdoor play and if necessary, will adjust each child's clothing during the day.

Staff will display a sensitive approach to each child's comfort and will support with their self-help attempts in getting dressed and undressed.

Children are encouraged to use self-help skills to dress themselves. Staff will monitor clothing and will assist in ensuring it is appropriate for the weather conditions.

Staff will regularly discuss the weather and seasons which will incorporate appropriate clothing.

Staff will display a sensitive approach to cultural differences in both attitudes to dress and in dressing procedures.

Staff will communicate and provide information to families in relation to clothes that support children with independence for example elasticated waists for toileting.

Provide and encourage children to wear aprons when they are painting and gluing, but we will not insist that they do.

Clothes may get splashed with paint etc. Staff we try not to inhibit or interrupt the child's enjoyment of these activities.

Staff will change children immediately from clothing, which is wet or soiled or has excessive food, paint or dirty/wet from outdoor play.

Staff, if possible, will soak clothing that has excessive paint or glue but unfortunately these may on occasions still stain.

**Should an item of clothing such as underwear be heavily soiled and the staff member is unable to suitably wash it then this item may be disposed of. The nursery will not be responsible for its replacement*

3. Request for Parents and Carers

Children to be dressed suitably for the weather conditions. Though maybe not required for transporting to and from nursery, children should have an outdoor jacket/coat to enable them to play outdoors in cold or wet weather.

Parents and carers should provide suitable footwear and clothing that enables children to safely run, climb and engage in various experiences.

Flip flops or backless / toeless shoes are not suitable due to the safety hazards of outdoor play. Crocs can be worn but with the back strap across the ankle.

Please provide suitable enclosed shoes for outdoor use if your child arrives in 'open toe' sandals.

Please provide additional indoor footwear if your child arrives in wellington or winter boots.

To provide spare clothing in a named fabric bag (No plastic carrier bags please).

To name clothing, shoes and other belongings.

Please ensure that your child has a sun hat in warm weather and suitable outdoor clothing (coats) in the wet or cold weather including a pair of wellington boots.

Parents/Carers are required to supply all nappies, creams, wipes are optional and barrier creams such as Vaseline or Sudocrem. The nursery will provide wet wipes. If these items are not provided it may be necessary for us to use our supplies, which are limited. Consent form for barrier creams are in the nursery admission forms, or completion of a medication form maybe required.

For early independence in the bathroom the children need easily manageable trousers and clothes.

For children not to wear items such as jewellery, hair accessories or decorative items which could be a choking hazard to others.

The nursery has a supply of clothing to be used when necessary. If your child does go home with any nursery items, they must be return washed as soon as possible to ensure the nursery has enough suitable clothes.

A lost property box is situated in the nursery and parents/carers are encouraged to regularly check for any belongings. The lost property box will review every 6 months and items unclaimed will be dispensed of.

University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust cannot accept responsibility for items that may get lost or damaged.

Both nurseries have a 'Preloved Clothing' rail. Please feel free to take any items suitable for your child[ren] and any clothes or school uniform items are welcomed.

4. Children's Jewellery

The wearing of jewellery by children in the busy nursery environment can present a potential hazard to both the child wearing the jewellery and the risk such as that of choking that the jewellery poses to other children.

Earrings should be studs only

No necklaces. For ethnic or cultural reasons this will be discussed with the nursery manager and will be removed at sleep/rest times

No bangles or bracelets

'Birthday Badges' to be worn at circle time / 'show and tell' but removed during play.

Nursery staff will discuss with the parent/carer on arrival about the suitability of jewellery and will sensitively ask for the items to be removed. If the items are noticed after the parent/carer has left the premises it will be removed and placed safely in an envelope and given to the parent/carer at collection time.

5. Amber Beads

There have been much publicised dangers of Amber Beads and are not recommended by the NHS. The main concern is choking and strangulation associated with wearing the necklace with beads. Sussex House and Wendy House nurseries request that no Amber necklaces or bracelets to be worn however an Amber anklet is permitted if covered by a sock otherwise this will be removed.

6. Ethnic and Cultural Jewellery

The wearing of ethnic jewellery will be dealt with on an individual basis, through discussion with the parent, key worker and nursery manager to arrive at a solution that is acceptable to all. Staff will be vigilant in ensuring that these do not present a risk as the child engages in other nursery activities and insist that items are removed before climbing or going outside.

7. Items Made by Children

We recognise that there are times that children like to make their own jewellery when threading beads and cotton reels. In general, these do not pose the same risks as they are 'child appropriate materials', however we recognise the risk of a strangulation hazard, and all staff are vigilant when children are taking part in any such activities.