



## St. Paul Lutheran Christian Day School Preschool Potty-Training Policy

The 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old classrooms are not equipped for diaper changing, therefore the children in these classrooms **must be fully potty trained per licensing standards.** Required potty training is standard practice among area preschools.

The St. Paul CDS definition of “fully potty trained” is:

- The child is able to inform the teacher of their need to use the potty.
  - It is nearly impossible for a teacher to remember to remind a child every half hour to go to the bathroom, while also caring for and instructing other students in the classroom. There are specific potty breaks built into the schedule.
- The child is able to urinate and defecate in the potty and then flush the potty.
- The child is able to pull clothing up and down without assistance.
  - Please recognize that belts, overalls, pants with snaps, and long dresses or shirts that fall into the toilet are difficult for children to manage on their own.
  - Pull Ups are not considered underwear, they are diapers.
- The child is able to wipe, using a reasonable amount of toilet paper, independently.
- The child is able to wash their own hands at the sink with soap and water and then dry them. There is a hand dryer available in the restroom.

If parents feel this may be difficult for their child to accomplish before the first day of school, they should consider whether our program is an appropriate fit for their child at this time. After the first two weeks of school, if a child has three accidents within two weeks, the child will be asked to take a break from school until potty training is completed successfully. A meeting will be held, at that time, with the parent(s), teacher(s), and administration to determine the best plan of action for the child moving forward.

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Initial

If your child is not completely potty trained as described above by the first day of school, you may choose one of the following options:

1. You may withdraw your child from preschool and place his or her name on our wait list.
  - Registration and supply fees are non-refundable; however, if your child is placed in a class at a later date, you will not need to pay additional fees.
2. You may continue to pay tuition to hold your child's spot until potty training is completed.

Accidents happen: We understand that the occasional accident will occur throughout the school year. Any child who has an accident will be removed from the classroom discreetly and escorted to the bathroom by a teacher or assistant. The teacher will assist the child in the removal of the soiled clothing. The child will be placed on the toilet and encouraged to complete the action to ensure that the bladder/bowels have been completely emptied and then to wipe. If the child's underpants are excessively soiled, they will be thrown away. The remainder of the soiled clothing will be returned to the child's school bag in a knotted plastic bag. The teacher will check the child for sufficient cleanliness and assist as necessary. The teacher will assist the child in getting dressed as necessary. Parents will be notified if an accident occurs at any point, so you are expecting to see your child in fresh clothes and the bag of soiled clothing to come home. Children who have accidents will never be humiliated, punished, or belittled.

Potty training occurs for all children at some point in their life, there is no right or wrong timing; unfortunately, however, we are not equipped to change diapers in the three-year-old classroom and beyond. Please remember that this policy is in place not only for the teachers and St. Paul CDS, but for all of the students in the program as well. Potty accidents are time consuming for the teachers; they take the teacher away from others within the classroom and can be a sanitary/health hazard issue. If you have questions regarding this policy, please ask a staff member.

Those registering a student in the three-year-old classroom will be asked to sign this document at registration indicating an understanding and acknowledgement of this policy.

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_