



Breast Milk Policy

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.

Growing Patch Nursery participates in the active encouragement of mothers to breast feed their babies. Therefore, the setting has put into place a policy and procedure to detail those arrangements necessary for the safe storage and use of breast milk.

Containers:

- Breast milk should be brought into the setting 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 sterilised.
- Parents must ensure that the containers are sterilised before next use.

Storage:

Breast milk should be provided daily, 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 always to be kept sterile
- 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 Procedure:

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 named with the infant's name and dated.
- Breast milk is to be stored in the fridge prior to feeding an infant

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:

- Breast milk is to be warmed to suitable body temperature to take the “edge” off the milk by placing it in boiled water.
- The milk is then to be checked for temperature to ensure 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 bottle and teat
- Unused breast milk (in the bottle) to be discarded after 1 hour
- Record feed times and amount taken by infant
- 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.

The nursery policy is to advise staff handling and carrying out feeding of breast milk to protect themselves against the risks of infection.

- Implementing good hygiene practice
- Avoiding actual contact with breast milk

<u>Updated/Reviewed:</u>	<u>Signature:</u>