

## Real Nappies Risk Assessment

Sheet No	Date of assessment	Activity/Process			Location			Assessed by	Review Date
No:	Activity/Process	Hazard	Persons in Danger	Severity L to H	Likelihood L to H	Result L to H	Controls and Comments	Result	

### Risk Benefit:

The average baby will use 6,500 nappies – this is one tonne of dirty/wet nappies that will be wasted/dumped – which will then last 250–400 years in the environment and quite possibly 500 years if they end up in rivers or the sea. Part of the process of a nappy deteriorating is breaking up into ever smaller bits of plastic – which get into the environment, injuring and killing birds and animals, getting into the human food chain via shell fish, fish, and animals eating fish. Microplastics are proven to attract toxic chemicals, including Phthalates which mimic human hormones, causing a wide variety of human problems including damaging fertility and cancers.

The use of Real Nappies gives us the opportunity to educate families and children on how we can preserve our environment and make a difference.

1	Leaking nappies	Hygiene and cross contamination	Children Adults	L	M	L	<p>Adult to have an understanding on use of nappies and liners available and suitable size for child.</p> <p>Liners to be cut to size and not folded as this will prevent absorption through the liner into the nappy.</p> <p>New nappies will need to be washed 3-6 times before use to get the manufactures film off the nappies which stops them being absorbent (no drying in between needed).</p>	A
2	Washing of nappies/liners	Hygiene and cross contamination	Adults	M	M	M	<p>Non-biological powder with no fabric conditioner. 40°c is adequate for urine soaked nappies/liners. Increased temperatures not to exceed 60°c as the fabric will spoil/leak. Cold rinse cycle first is advisable. Always wash on the longest cycle for well soiled items.</p>	A

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3	Washing nappies	Low immune system	Children Adults	M	M	M	Nappies must be washed on a 60°c wash if under 3 months old, nappy rash, generally unwell, Eco Ball is used for faeces on the nappy. Recent child vaccinations can also come out in the faeces and it is advisable to stick to 60°c a few days after the immunisation. Do not use low/eco water setting as nappies absorb a lot of water.	A	
4	Odours	Ammonia	Adults	L	M	L	Wet nappies not to be left longer than 3 days as this will increase the odour. Wash bag can be in same wash. Cold water rinse will reduce the odour as will hanging the nappies out in the rain. Odours can be caused due to a build-up of detergent, an additional rinse cycle can remove this.	A	
5	Staining	Hygiene and cross contamination	Adults	L	M	M	Running nappies/liners through cold water rinse cycle will help reducing the stains within the nappies. Hanging the nappies/liners out in the sun will bleach them and reduce stains. Never dry them on a radiator. Disposable liners are available.	A	
6	Disposable liners	Correct waste disposal	Adults	M	L	L	Liners must not be flushed down the toilet. Faeces to be flushed down the toilet. Liner to be disposed of in clinical waste bin at nursery.	A	

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7	Returning nappies	Hygiene and cross contamination	Children Adults	M	M	M	Nappies and liners to be returned in useable condition and checked by management against checklist. All items to be washed on a 60°c cycle after being returned and new loan out.	A	

Key to result: T=Trivial risk · A=Adequately controlled · N=Not adequately controlled · U=Unable to decide, further information required

<b>Risk Rating:</b> Once the likelihood and severity have been determined, the risk can be calculated below (AxB)			
	Likelihood (B)		
#	L	M	H
Low	Low	Low	Medium
Medium	Low	Medium	High
High	Medium	High	High