

Toileting Tip Sheet

Diapering/Toileting

Toileting is an important part of everyday life and is considered an activity of daily living (ADL). Some children with disabilities may need help with this daily task. Unless there is a special medical condition that requires help from a nurse, most school staff, such as teachers or paraprofessionals, can assist children with using the bathroom.



If your child needs help with toileting, it should be written into their **individualized education program (IEP)**. The IEP team will create a plan called a “toileting protocol” to make sure your child receives the support they need.

If the school calls you to pick up your child due to toileting issues, this may be considered an **informal removal**. An informal removal occurs when the school—not the parent—removes a child from educational services without formally suspending or documenting the removal. Informal removals can be a sign that a child’s IEP is not meeting their needs. If this happens, an IEP meeting should be scheduled to create or adjust the toileting protocol.



Toileting Tip Sheet

(continued, page 2)

A child who is not toilet trained should still be able to learn in a regular classroom. The toileting protocol should explain how the school will support the child's toileting needs while allowing them to participate in the general education setting. The plan should also ensure the child receives the support needed to learn in the least restrictive environment (LRE), meaning they can learn alongside their peers as much as possible.

What to Think About When Creating a Toileting Protocol

When developing a toileting protocol, the IEP team should consider the following:

Supervision - Who will help the student?

Permission - Who gives permission for toileting help?

Accommodation - Does the child need an accessible restroom or other assistance?

Hygiene - How will the student stay clean during and after toileting?

Accessibility - Is the bathroom easy for the student to use?

Privacy - Does the student have privacy while using the bathroom?

Emergency Procedures - What should be done if something goes wrong?

Communication and Data Collection - How will the school track toileting needs and share information with the family?

This plan helps ensure that students feel **comfortable, safe, and respected** while using the bathroom.