



## **The Rainbow Montessori Nursery School bottle and breastmilk Policy**

*This policy covers all safeguarding and welfare requirements of the statutory Framework for the EYFS (2025)*

### **Bottle Feeding and Breast Milk in The Nursery**

#### **Formula milk:**

Parents are asked to provide a sterilised bottle for each feed and pre-measure the formula powder into a container. Please label the pot clearly with the child's name and quantity of powder (eg 6 scoops) to ensure that staff are making the bottle correctly. Nursery staff will follow the manufacturer's instructions when making up bottles for children.

On arrival, all bottles and beakers are to be placed in the milk cupboard in the kitchen.

Bottles should be given at the times agreed with the parent bearing the child's immediate needs in mind. The timing of feeds is to be agreed with the parent during daily handover discussions.

The quantity of milk consumed by the child is recorded on Tapestry.

The temperature of the milk is to be checked by a member of staff before the bottle is given to the child unless the parent advises staff to offer a bottle cold. Bottles should not be served above 37c and the temperature recorded

If refused, the bottle will be offered to the baby again at 10-15-minute intervals. Bottles will be discarded after 1 hour. Bottles are never re-heated.

In instances of ready - made milk, half of the carton can be used in the morning while the other half must be stored in the fridge, to be used in the afternoon. All opened cartons of milk must be discarded at the end of the day.

Ready-made formula already poured in a sterilised bottle on arrival, will be stored in the fridge and heated with a jug and hot water when ready for use.

## **Breast fed infants**

Breast milk should be brought to the Nursery 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** sterilized.

**Parents must ensure that the container is sterilized before re-use.**

Breast milk should be provided on a daily basis, unused milk will be discarded at the end of each feed.

## **General Handling**

**Staff will ensure that the following Policy is strictly adhered to;**

Breast milk is to be kept sterile at all times

DO NOT leave breast milk at room temperature for more than 1 hour

DO NOT heat breast milk in the microwave

## **Nursery Breast Milk Procedures**

**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 or sterile breast milk bag, clearly marked with the child's name and dated.

Breast milk is to be placed in the fridge.

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.

Staff to put on disposable gloves and an apron when feeding a child breast milk (advisable but not mandatory)

## **Warming Breast Milk**

Breast milk is to be warmed to a suitable body temperature to take the 'edge' off the milk by placing it in a jug of hot water

The milk is then to be checked for temperature to ensure that the milk is cool enough for the baby to drink, using a temperature probe. The temperature is recorded

DO NOT HEAT breast milk in the microwave

Unused breast milk (in that bottle) is to be discarded after 1 hour

Record feed time and amount taken by the infant on Tapestry

Discard gloves and apron

After final feed or at the end of the day discard all unused breast milk stored for that child

## Hygiene

Breast milk is a bodily fluid, which carries with it a (small) risk of infection and/or disease. The Nursery Policy is to advise staff handling or carrying out the feeding of breast milk to protect themselves against the risks of infection by;

Implementing good hygiene practices

Using the PPE provided (advisable but not mandatory)

Avoiding actual contact with the breast milk

Only employees that hold a level 2 food hygiene certificate and have been suitably trained to feed infants by management will undertake feed preparation duties.

[Help for early years providers : Food safety \(education.gov.uk\)](https://www.food.gov.uk/food-safety-education)

<b>This policy was adopted on</b>	<b>Signed on behalf of the nursery</b>	<b>Date for review</b>
<i>4 December 2025</i>	H.Wade	<i>December 2026</i>