

Lisa's Little Angels Daycare & Preschool

Infant & Toddler Care Safe, Loving & Developmentally Appropriate Practices

At **Lisa's Little Angels Daycare & Preschool**, the health, safety, comfort, and individual needs of every child are very important to me. When caring for infants and toddlers, I follow Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) licensing requirements and the applicable Washington Administrative Codes (WACs). These requirements help ensure that children receive safe, consistent, nurturing care while they are away from their families.

Feeding & Bottle Feeding

I understand that feeding an infant is more than simply providing a bottle. It is a time for comfort, connection, eye contact, communication, and responding to each child's individual cues. I work with parents to understand their child's normal feeding routine, hunger cues, fullness cues, and individual needs so that feeding can be as consistent as possible between home and daycare.

When bottle feeding, I will hold the infant while feeding, talk with and make eye contact with the child, and pay attention to their cues. Bottles will never be propped or given to an infant while lying down. I will check the temperature of the bottle before feeding to help prevent burns, and I will stop feeding when the child shows signs that they are full. These practices follow Washington's requirements under WAC 110-300-0275.

Bottles From Home

For your child's safety, bottles brought from home must be clearly labeled with your child's **first and last name and the date**. Bottles will be refrigerated promptly upon arrival and stored appropriately until they are needed.

I will make sure bottles and nipples are clean and in good condition and that bottles are prepared and handled in a way that helps prevent contamination. Bottles will never be shared between children. Formula will be prepared according to the manufacturer's instructions, and bottles will never be heated in a microwave. When warming is needed, I will use an appropriate method such as warm running water, a container of warm water, or a bottle warmer.

Any formula left in a bottle after feeding will be discarded according to Washington State requirements rather than being saved and offered again. These practices follow WAC 110-300-0280.

Breast Milk

I am happy to support breastfeeding families and understand how important it can be for parents to know that their breast milk is being handled with care. Breast milk provided from home will be immediately refrigerated or frozen and clearly labeled with the child's **first and last name and the date received**.

Frozen breast milk will be stored appropriately to protect its quality and prevent contamination. When breast milk needs to be thawed, it will be thawed safely in the refrigerator, under warm running water, in a container of warm water, or using a bottle warmer. Breast milk will never be heated or thawed in a microwave or directly on the stove.

I will follow Washington State requirements regarding the storage, thawing, use, and return of breast milk. If an infant is normally breastfed and formula would ever need to be given instead, I will obtain parental consent before providing formula, as required by WAC 110-300-0281.

Diapering

Diapering is handled as an important part of your child's comfort, health, and dignity. I will check diapers regularly and change children whenever they are wet or soiled. Diapering will be done in a clean and sanitary area, and appropriate handwashing and cleaning procedures will be followed to help prevent the spread of germs.

I will treat diaper changes as a calm and positive part of the child's routine, while also using the opportunity to talk with, comfort, and interact with your child.

Toilet Training

When a child begins showing signs of readiness for toilet training, I will work together with the family to create a consistent and positive approach. Every child develops at their own pace, and toilet training will never be rushed or used as a source of embarrassment or punishment.

Communication between the parent and provider is especially important during this stage. We will work together to keep routines as consistent as possible between home and Lisa's Little Angels.

Sleep & Rest

I understand that infants and toddlers have individual sleep needs and that sleep patterns can change as children grow. I will work with parents to learn their child's normal sleep routine, sleep cues, and comforting routines.

Infants will be allowed to follow their own sleep patterns rather than being expected to fit into a rigid schedule. I will provide an appropriate, safe sleeping environment and communicate with parents about significant changes in their child's normal sleep habits.

Safe Sleep

Safe sleep is one of my highest priorities when caring for infants. I follow Washington State's current safe-sleep requirements and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations for reducing the risk of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death and other sleep-related deaths.

Infants will be placed on their backs for sleep, and I will actively supervise sleeping infants by visibly checking them at least every 15 minutes while remaining within sight and hearing range. I will monitor their breathing and make sure the room is adequately lit so that I can observe the infant's skin color.

Infants will sleep in an appropriate, approved sleep space without loose blankets, pillows, stuffed animals, crib bumpers, or other soft items that could create a safety risk. Nothing will be placed over or draped across an occupied crib, and bedding or clothing will not be allowed to cover an infant's face or head.

I will also make sure infants do not become overheated while sleeping. If an infant independently rolls during sleep, I will follow the current Washington State requirements regarding repositioning. Sleep-positioning devices will only be used when there is written direction from the child's health care provider. These practices follow WAC 110-300-0291.

Partnering With Families

My goal is to make parents feel confident that their child is being cared for with the same attention, love, and respect that they receive at home. I welcome communication about your child's feeding preferences, breast milk or formula routine, diapering needs, toilet-training progress, sleep patterns, comfort items, and other individual needs.

By working together and following Washington State's health and safety requirements, I can provide a consistent, nurturing environment where little ones can feel secure, cared for, and ready to learn and grow.

Lisa's Little Angels Daycare & Preschool
Where little ones are loved, nurtured, and encouraged to grow.

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgment

I have received and reviewed the Infant & Toddler Care policies for Lisa's Little Angels Daycare & Preschool.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Provider Signature: _____

Date: _____