



# Ashbridge

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL & NURSERY

## MILK AND BOTTLE FEEDING POLICY

Approved by: SMT

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Accessibility: Available on the website and as a  
paper copy on request

Scope: Ashbridge Nursery, Ashbridge-on-Ribble Nursery,  
Ashbridge Nursery at Maxy Farm, The Fledglings Nursery

Ashbridge is committed to ensuring the health, safety and well being of children in our care and as such we work with families to meet each child's individual needs and parent/cares wishes regarding breast/ bottle feeding and weaning. Whilst we actively support and promote breastfeeding and ensure a designated area is available for mothers who wish to breastfeed their babies or express milk, we also recognise that many parents/ carers will choose to use formula milk feeds whilst their child is attending nursery.

When feeding young babies we adopt strict guidelines regarding the procedure for both preparing and serving feeds in bottles. These are outlined below:

- Parents/Carers are requested to bring in sterilised, named bottles for their child each day.
- Formula milk must be brought in named containers as agreed with the nursery and bottles are made as and when the child require it. Following the Department of Health guidelines we only use recently boiled water at a temperature of 70°C s or above, to make formula bottles. Bottles are then cooled to body temperature, which means they should feel warm or cool, but not hot, and tested to ensure they are an appropriate temperature for the child to drink safe. Parents who wish to bring sealed, prepared milk in cartons may do so. In this instance named and sterilised bottles provided by the parent will be used and the milk will be heated using a bottle warmer or in jugs of warm water.
- Breast milk must be labelled and dated on either the milk pouch or bottle. All bottles/containers of breast milk are stored in a fridge. For chilled breast milk, the milk must have been chilled in a fridge for no longer than 3 days after expressing. Previously frozen breast milk must have been frozen for no longer than 6 months. Frozen breast milk should be defrosted overnight in the fridge at home before bringing it in to nursery. Bottles of breast milk are warmed using a bottle warmer or in jugs of warm water. This is in line with NHS guidance.
- Any bottles of milk which have been used but not finished are emptied of after no more than one hour and bottles and teats are thoroughly cleaned with hot soapy water and returned to parents for sterilising.
- All feeds are given to babies by their own key person, whenever possible. Whilst being fed, babies are to be held comfortably in arms, given reassurance and encouragement and as much eye contact as possible.