



Breast Milk Storage and Feeding Policy

Version Number: 1.0

Owner: Nursery Operations Team

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Policy Statement

At Kiddie Capers Childcare, we recognise the benefits of breastfeeding and are committed to supporting families who choose to provide expressed breast milk for their child. We will ensure that breast milk is handled, stored, prepared and fed safely to maintain its quality and to protect the health and wellbeing of all children in our care.

Aim

We aim to:

- Support breastfeeding families.
- Ensure breast milk is stored and handled safely.
- Maintain high standards of hygiene and food safety.
- Comply with relevant health, safety and safeguarding requirements.

Responsibilities

Parents/Carers

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing expressed breast milk in sterile containers or bottles.
- Clearly labelling each container with:
 - Child's full name
 - Date milk was expressed/frozen/thawed
 - Date brought into nursery
- Informing staff of any specific feeding instructions.

Nursery Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Checking labels upon arrival.
- Storing breast milk immediately and safely.
- Following hygiene procedures when handling breast milk.
- Ensuring each child receives only their own milk.
- Recording feeds where appropriate.

Procedure

Receiving Breast Milk

1. Staff will check that all bottles or containers are clearly labelled.

2. Any unlabelled milk will not be accepted until correctly identified.
3. Milk will be handed directly to a member of staff and not placed in children's bags.

Storage

1. Breast milk will be stored in a designated area of the refrigerator at or below 5°C.
2. Refrigerators will be temperature checked and recorded daily.
3. Frozen breast milk may be stored in accordance with parental instructions.
4. Breast milk can be stored in the fridge for up to 8 days at 5 degrees Celsius or lower.
5. Breast milk can be stored for 2 weeks in the ice compartment of a fridge or for up to 6 months in a freezer, at 18 degrees Celsius or lower.
6. Breast milk that's been cooled in the fridge can be carried in a cool bag with ice packs for up to 24 hours.

Preparation and Feeding

1. Staff must wash their hands thoroughly before handling bottles or milk.
2. Breast milk may be served cold, at room temperature, or gently warmed according to parental preference.
3. Bottles will be warmed using an approved bottle warmer and following our bottle warming procedure.
4. Breast milk must never be heated in a microwave.

Leftover Milk

- Any milk remaining after a feed will be discarded in accordance with current health guidance.

Hygiene

Staff will:

- Follow handwashing procedures before and after handling bottles and wear blue gloves.
- Clean and disinfect preparation areas before use.
- Follow the nursery's Food Hygiene and Infection Control Procedures.

Supporting Breastfeeding Families

Kiddie Capers Childcare welcomes breastfeeding mothers and will aim to provide a private, comfortable area should a parent wish to breastfeed their child at the nursery.

Document history

Date	Version	Section	Details	Reviewed by
04/08/2026	1.0		Creation of new policy	LE