CLAIMS

1. A toilet module having a toilet bowl and a toilet bowl support mechanism, the toilet bowel being supported by the toilet bowl support mechanism; and the toilet bowl has a front end and an aft end, the front end and the aft end corresponding to the front and the back respectively of a person seated on the toilet module when the toilet module is in use, and the front end and the aft end each being situated at or adjacent an upper surface of the toilet bowl; and the toilet bowl support mechanism is configured to move the toilet bowl to and between a first position and a second position, the toilet bowl support mechanism is configured to rotate the toilet bowl about an axis of rotation that passes through a point that is situated at or adjacent the front end of the bowl, the first position being characterised in that the front end of the toilet bowl is lower than the aft end of the toilet bowl, and the second position being characterised in that the front end of the toilet bowl is above the aft end of the toilet bowl.

2. The toilet module as claimed in claim 1, wherein the axis of rotation of the toilet bowl is parallel to a transverse axis of the toilet bowl.

3. The toilet module as claimed in claim 2, wherein the toilet module includes a trap configured to provide a water seal in a waste outlet passage of the toilet module.

4. The toilet module as claimed in claim 3, wherein the direction of flow through the trap is a direction that is parallel to the axis of rotation of the toilet bowl.

5. The toilet module as claimed in claim 4, wherein the toilet module includes a flexible connection that provides a water-tight connection between an outlet of the toilet bowl and a waste system in the vicinity of the toilet module.

6. The toilet module as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the toilet bowl support mechanism includes one or more powered actuators configured to move the toilet bowl to and between the first position and the second position.

7. The toilet module as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the toilet bowl support mechanism includes one or more bowl guides configured to facilitate the movement of the toilet bowl to and between the first position and the second position.

8. The toilet module as claimed in claim 7, wherein the toilet bowl support mechanism includes a bowl structural support member that is rigidly connected to the toilet bowl at a first or forward part of the bowl structural support member and which has a slidable engagement with the or each bowl guide at a second or aft part of the bowl structural member.

9. The toilet module as claimed in claim 8, wherein the bowl structural support member provides a cantilevered support for the toilet bowl.

10. The toilet module as claimed in any one of claims 8 to 10, wherein the or each bowl guide includes a curved section of guide.

11. The toilet module as claimed in claim 10, wherein the or each bowl guide is aligned in a substantially vertical orientation.

12. The toilet module as claimed in claim 10, wherein the curved section of the or each bowl guide is used to produce the rotational movement of the toilet bowl as the bowl structural support member slides along the curved section of the or each guide.

13. The toilet module as claimed in claim 12, wherein the toilet bowl support mechanism includes at least one spring which is configured to bias the toilet bowl toward the first position.

14. The toilet module as claimed in claim 12, wherein the toilet bowl support mechanism includes one or more powered actuators configured to move the toilet bowl to and between the first position and the second position.

15. The toilet module as claimed in claim 12, wherein the or each bowl guide is in the form of a rail along which a carriage assembly can move.

16. The toilet module as claimed in claim 12, wherein the or each bowl structural support member is connected to a carriage assembly that moves along its associated bowl guide.

17. The toilet module as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 16, wherein the toilet module further includes movable footrests and a footrest support mechanism that is configured to move the footrests to and between an upper position and a lower position.

18. The toilet module as claimed in claim 17, wherein the footrest support mechanism includes one or more footrest guides configured to facilitate the movement of the footrests to and between the upper position and the lower position.

19. The toilet module as claimed in claim 18, wherein the footrest support mechanism includes one or more footrest structural support members that are rigidly connected to each footrest at a first or forward part of the or each footrest structural support member and which have a slidable engagement with the or each footrest guide at a second or aft part of the or each footrest structural member.

20. The toilet module as claimed in claim 18, wherein the or each footrest structural support member provides a cantilevered support for the footrests.

21. The toilet module as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 20, wherein the footrest support mechanism includes one or more powered actuators configured to move the footrests to and between the lower position and the upper position.