

Intimate Care Policy



Approved by:	Interim Executive Board
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Last reviewed on:	13/07/2026
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Next review due by:	July 2029 or as required
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Policy Statement

At our school we are committed to safeguarding the dignity, rights and well-being of all children. We understand that some pupils require help with their personal care due to medical needs or specific developmental needs. We provide intimate care in a respectful, safe and sensitive manner that promotes independence wherever possible.

There is a clear expectation that all children should be toilet trained ahead of beginning school, unless there is a specific need managed under NHS care. We understand that the occasional 'accident' may happen. This policy is for children with a specific need.

This policy outlines our procedures and responsibilities when providing intimate care to ensure the safety, dignity and welfare of all children and staff.

Definition of Intimate Care

Intimate care involves any personal care that most children carry out for themselves, but which some may need support with. This may include:

- Toileting
- Changing nappies or continence pads
- Washing intimate parts of the body
- Support with dressing or undressing due to a medical or developmental need
- Managing menstruation

Aims of this Policy

- To ensure that all children are treated with dignity and respect
- To support children's personal development, privacy and comfort
- To meet individual care needs while maintaining health and safety standards
- To promote independence as appropriate to the child's age and ability
- To involve parents and carers in planning and reviewing care needs
- To ensure that all staff providing intimate care are trained and supported

Key Principles

- Intimate care will be carried out by trained staff who are familiar with the child's needs
- Whenever possible the child's preference for a particular adult will be considered
- Children will be encouraged to be as independent as possible
- Staff will communicate with the child throughout and explain what is happening
- All care will be provided in a calm, safe and respectful environment
- Staff will be sensitive to issues of gender, culture and privacy

Staffing and Procedures

- Only staff who have received appropriate safeguarding training will carry out intimate care
- Where possible, staff working with younger or more vulnerable children will be known to them
- Staff will wear gloves and appropriate PPE when providing intimate care
- Toileting and changing will take place in a designated, private area
- All incidents of intimate care will be recorded and signed by the staff member
- Parents will be informed of any unexpected or additional intimate care provided during the day

Safeguarding

- All staff involved in intimate care are subject to an enhanced DBS check
- Intimate care is carried out in line with our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Any concerns about inappropriate behaviour or signs of abuse will be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Working with Parents and Carers

We value strong partnerships with families. We will:

- Work closely with parents to understand their child's needs
- Ensure consent is in place before intimate care is provided
- Keep open and regular communication about any care provided
- Offer support and reassurance to families during transitions

Health and Safety

- Staff will follow hygiene procedures and infection control guidance
- Changing areas are cleaned regularly and checked for safety
- Soiled clothing will be bagged and returned to parents discreetly
- Appropriate facilities such as accessible toilets and changing mats are available

Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed annually or sooner if guidance or school needs change. The Headteacher and SENCO monitor procedures and training to ensure they remain safe, consistent and appropriate.