



Intimate Care Policy

Our Vision

Our small school community welcomes everyone and aspires to meet the needs of all through high expectations and compassionate support. We strive to create a firm foundation for all to fulfil their potential as future citizens of the world. Our challenging and exciting learning environment enables everyone to go forward as champions of compassion, curiosity and courage.

Intimate Personal Care

| Date | Review Date | Committee | Comments |
|-----------|-------------|----------------------|--|
| 21.9.2021 | Sept 22 | Finance and Staffing | To be reviewed in line with Health and Safety Policy dates |
| Nov 2023 | Nov 2024 | Finance and Staffing | |

We believe this policy should be a working document that is fit for purpose, represents the school ethos, enables consistency and quality across the school and is related to the following legislation:

- Children Act 1989
- Education Act 1996
- Education Act 2002
- Children Act 2004
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- School Staffing (England) Regulations 2009
- Equality Act 2010
- Education Act 2011
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (Detained Persons) Regulations 2015

The following documentation is also related to this policy:

- Equality Act 2010: Advice for Schools (DfE)
- Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against Teachers and other Staff: Guidance for Local Authorities, Headteachers, School Staff, Governing Bodies and Proprietors of Independent Schools (DfE)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education: Statutory Guidance for Schools and Colleges (DfE) Sept 2021
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 Years. Statutory Guidance for Organisations Who Work With and Support Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (DfE) and (DoH)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children: A Guide to Inter-agency Working to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of Children



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We define 'intimate personal care' as duties that include 'hands-on physical care in personal hygiene, and physical presence or observation during such activities.' Intimate personal care is any activity such as feeding, oral care, washing, changing clothes, toileting, first aid and medical assistance, comforting and support, and supervising intimate self-care that is required to meet the personal needs of a child regularly or during a one-off incident.

We have a duty to safeguard children and school personnel at all times. We must develop independence in each child but on those occasions when children need assistance they must feel safe, have personal privacy, feel valued, are treated with dignity and respect, are involved and consulted about their own intimate care with school personnel that are specially trained in intimate care procedures.

We wish to work in close partnership with parents/carers and other professionals to ensure continuity of care for pupils.

We treat every child as an individual, treating them gently and sensitively as possible in order not to cause any form of distress, embarrassment or pain.

We have a duty to take full account of the religious views and cultural values attached to aspects of intimate personal care with children. Also, to agree with parents, school personnel and children the appropriate terminology for private parts of the body and its functions.

We as a school community have a commitment to promote equality. Therefore, an equality impact assessment has been undertaken and we believe this policy is in line with the Equality Act 2010.

We believe it is essential that this policy clearly identifies and outlines the roles and responsibilities of all those involved in the procedures and arrangements that is connected with this policy.

Aims

- To safeguard the rights of children.
- To safeguard school personnel trained in intimate care procedures.
- To ensure compliance with all relevant legislation connected to this policy.
- To work with other schools and the local authority to share good practice in order to improve this policy.

Procedure

Role of the Governing Body

The Governing Body has:

- appointed school personnel suitably trained in intimate care procedures for children;



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- delegated powers and responsibilities to the Headteacher to ensure all school personnel and stakeholders are aware of and comply with this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring that the school complies with all equalities legislation;
- nominated a designated Equalities governor to ensure that appropriate action will be taken to deal with all prejudice related incidents or incidents which are a breach of this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring funding is in place to support this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring this policy and all policies are maintained and updated regularly;
- make effective use of relevant research and information to improve this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring all policies are made available to parents;
- responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy.

Role of the Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- ensure all school personnel, pupils and parents are aware of and comply with this policy;
- have in place an agreement with parents that deals with the procedure for personal care in school;
- undertake risk assessments;
- ensure that all stakeholders are aware of all risk assessments and safe systems of work;
- ensure school personnel who provide intimate care are suitably trained to do so;
- ensure that all school personnel fulfil their duties to co-operate with the policy;
- ensure suitable hygiene changing facilities are in place and well maintained;
- ensure essential resources are in good supply;
- make effective use of relevant research and information to improve this policy;
- ensure that new developments, resources and equipment are brought to the attention of the appropriate school personnel;
- monitor the effectiveness of this policy by speaking with pupils, school personnel, parents and governors;
- annually report to the Governing Body on the success and development of this policy.

Role of School Personnel with Responsibilities for Intimate Care

School personnel will:

- receive training in:
 - safeguarding and child Protection
 - health and safety
 - first aid
 - dignity in care
- be professional in their duties at all times;
- be respectful of a child's needs;



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- preserve a child's dignity and respect with a high level of privacy, choice and control appropriate to the child's age and situation;
- be aware of a child's method and level of communication;
- make sure practice in intimate care is consistent;
- be aware of their own limitations;
- promote positive self-esteem and body image;
- report any concerns they have about a child;
- report any concerns they have about a colleague's intimate care practice;
- be aware of the danger of allegations being made against them;
- take precautions to avoid risk;
- be aware of all individual intimate care plans;
- discuss intimate care arrangements with parents/carers regularly;
- record all arrangements of individual personal care plans;
- be aware of all other linked policies;
- maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour within and outside school and not to undermine fundamental British values;
- work in partnership with parents and carers keeping them up to date with their child's progress and behaviour at school.

Nappy Changing in the Early Years

Nappy changing procedures include:

- Nappy changing undertaken in an allocated room.
- Parents are asked about their child's preferences during nappy changing.
- Record kept when each nappy is changed and with information shared with parents/carers.
- Children's nappies checked at appropriate intervals by key person.
- Nappy changing resources readily supplied.
- A named box for each child containing spare clothes in place.
- A new set of gloves and apron to be worn for every nappy change.
- Child to be placed on a mat during a nappy change.
- Soiled nappies to be placed in a nappy sack for disposal.
- Any soiled clothes to be sent home in a separate bag.
- All cleaning wipes to be placed in a nappy sack.
- Nappy sack to be securely tied and placed in the appropriate bin for disposal.
- Before dressing the child dispose of all personal protective equipment used in the appropriate bin.
- Hands to be washed before dressing child.
- Return child to the classroom/playroom.
- Then thoroughly clean the nappy changing area using anti bacterial spray and disposal paper towels.
- Link to Health and Safety



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Role of Parents/Carers

Parents/carers will:

- be aware of and comply with this policy
- advise the school of any known intimate care needs relating to their child;
- be involved with their child's intimate care arrangements on a regular basis;
- inform the school if their child have any marks or rash
- be asked to take part in periodic surveys conducted by the school;
- support the school Code of Conduct and guidance necessary to ensure smooth running of the school.

Rights of the Child

All children have the right to be treated:

- with sensitivity and respect in such a way that their experience of intimate care is a positive one;
- by professionals suitably trained and assessed to be competent to undertake procedures in intimate care

Raising Awareness of this Policy

We will raise awareness of this policy via:

- the school website
- the Staff Handbook/Code of Conduct
- meetings with parents such as introductory, transition, parent-teacher consultations school events
- meetings with school personnel
- communications with home such as weekly newsletters and of end of half term newsletters
- reports such annual report to parents and Headteacher reports to the Governing Body

Training

All school personnel:

- have equal chances of training, career development and promotion
- receive training on induction which specifically covers:
 - All aspects of this policy
 - Safeguarding and Child Protection
 - Health and Safety
 - Disposal of Nappies and Personal Protection Equipment
 - Inclusion
 - SEN



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- Equal opportunities
- receive periodic training so that they are kept up to date with new information
- receive equal opportunities training on induction in order to improve their understanding of the Equality Act 2010 and its implications.

Equality Impact Assessment

Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school.

Monitoring the Implementation and Effectiveness of the Policy

The practical application of this policy will be reviewed annually or when the need arises by the coordinator, the Headteacher and the nominated governor.

A statement of the policy's effectiveness and the necessary recommendations for improvement will be presented to the Governing Body for further discussion and endorsement.

Linked Policies

Health and Safety
 Safeguarding and Child Protection
 SEN

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|---------------------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Headteacher: | | Date: | |
| Chair of Governing Body: | | Date: | |