

Intimate Care Policy

This policy applies to all staff undertaking personal care tasks with children but particularly to those who are in the Early Years and Foundation Stage. The normal range of development for this group of children indicates that they may not be fully toilet trained. In addition to this there are other vulnerable groups of children and young people that may require support with personal care on either a short, longer term or permanent basis due to SEN and disability, medical needs or a temporary impairment. Examples of these may be children who have limbs in plaster or are temporarily wheelchair bound.

Definition of Intimate care

Intimate personal care includes hands-on physical care in personal hygiene, and physical presence or observation during such activities. Intimate personal care tasks can include:

- body bathing other than to arms, face and legs below the knee
- toileting, wiping and care in the genital and anal areas
- dressing and undressing
- application of medical treatment, other than to arms, face and legs below the knee
- supporting with the changing of sanitary protection

Guiding principles of Intimate Care

Whenever staff are providing intimate care for a child the following principles must be followed:

- The dignity of the individual child must be maintained and the care needed should be explained to them
- Sensitivity must be shown to their needs and preferences
- Their safety and comfort must be paramount
- Their right to give or to withdraw their consent must be respected
- They should be encouraged to care for themselves as much as is reasonably possible
- Hygiene for both the member of staff and the child must be a priority

Record of events

If a member of staff has had to give intimate care to a pupil this should be recorded on 3Sys, recording the 'reason' as 'intimate care'. The record should state: who has received the care; who has given the care; what was involved and the time that it happened. The log is regularly reviewed and any patterns found are reported to Governors in the safeguarding report.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead, Prevent Strategy Lead and Online Safety Lead is:

Lisa Bedford, Assistant Head (Pastoral), (01223 272718)

The EYFS Designated Safeguarding Lead and Domestic Abuse Lead is:

Althea Pipe, Senior Deputy Head and Head of the Junior Department (01223, 272729)

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Steve Glitherow, Housemaster (01223 448760) and Althea Pipe, Senior Deputy Head and Head of the Junior Department (01223, 272729)