



Building Personal Success

Intimate Care Policy

Reviewed by: Olusola Awelenje

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Next review date: January 2022

Introduction

Brampton Primary School, is committed to ensure that all staff responsible for the intimate care of children will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times.

We recognise that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given. No child should be attended to in a way that causes distress, embarrassment or pain.

Aims:

- to safeguard the rights and promote the welfare of children
- to provide guidance and reassurance to staff whose role includes intimate care
- to assure parents that staff are knowledgeable about personal care and that their individual concerns are considered.

Definition

Intimate care is any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out an invasive procedure (such as cleaning up after a child has soiled him/herself) to intimate personal areas. In most cases such care will involve procedures to do with personal hygiene and the cleaning of equipment associated with the process as part of a staff member's duty of care.

Our approach to the best practice

The management of all children with intimate care needs will be carefully planned. The child who requires intimate care is treated with respect at all times; the child's welfare and dignity is of paramount importance.

Staff who provide this care are trained to do so (including Child Protection and Moving and Handling) and are fully aware of best practice. Suitable equipment and facilities will be provided to assist with children who need special arrangements following assessment from the school's risk assessors. Staff will be supported to adapt their practice in relation to the needs of the individual children taking into account developmental changes such as the onset of puberty and menstruations.

The child will be supported to achieve the highest level of self-help that is possible, given their age and abilities. Staff will encourage each child to do as much for him/herself as he/she can. This may mean, for example, giving the child responsibilities for cleaning after themselves. Each child's right to privacy will be respected. In Brampton Primary School, one child will be catered to by two adults unless there is a sound reason for having more adults present.

All members of staff will use sensitive and appropriate LANGUAGE to describe and explain person care arrangements. We will not, for example, talk about "toileting" or refer to the pupil in any careless or thoughtless manner. For example, we use the phrase "personal care" as a more sensitive use of language. We will not talk over

pupils' heads about personal care arrangements. WE WILL ALWAYS TREAT OUR PUPILS WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT.

The Protection of children

Safeguarding procedures will be strictly adhered to. All children will be taught personal safety skills carefully matched to their level of ability, development and understanding. If a member of staff has any concerns about physical changes in a child's presentation, e.g. marks, bruises, soreness etc. they will immediately record any concerns and report it to the appropriate members of the safeguarding team as laid out in the school's safeguarding policy.

Photography/ Video

Under no circumstance whatsoever do we ever photograph or video pupils in the toilet unless we have a parent's written permission.

Staffing of personal care arrangements

In our school, women conduct personal care for girls and boys and men for boys. We respect children's individual backgrounds and culture and consult with parents to ensure they are aware of who is carrying out personal care with their child. While we will do our best to meet pupils' and parent's wishes relating to personal care, in emergency situations, we ensure we do what is best for the needs of the child in that scenario. Agency staff may be involved with personal care but always with an experienced member of staff.