

Intimate Care Policy

Head Teacher: Miss Wright

Date Implemented: April 2026

Date of Review: April 2029

1. Purpose

This policy outlines the approach to intimate care for pupils to ensure that all care is provided in a safe, respectful, and dignified manner, in line with safeguarding expectations set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education and the EYFS statutory framework.

The policy aims to:

- Safeguard the welfare of pupils
- Protect staff from potential allegations
- Ensure consistency of practice across the school

2. Definition of Intimate Care

Intimate care refers to any care that involves washing, touching, or carrying out a procedure to intimate personal areas. This may include:

- Toileting and continence care
- Changing nappies or soiled clothing
- Washing or bathing
- Menstrual care
- Supporting pupils with medical or physical needs

3. Principles

The school is committed to ensuring that:

- Every pupil is treated with dignity and respect
- Privacy is maintained wherever possible
- Pupils are encouraged to be as independent as possible
- The child's voice is considered at all times
- Care is delivered in a way that safeguards both pupils and staff

4. Safeguarding

All intimate care must be provided in line with the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

Staff must:

- Be appropriately trained
- Follow agreed procedures at all times
- Report any concerns immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Any unusual marks, injuries, or concerns must be recorded and reported in line with safeguarding procedures.

5. Staff Responsibilities

- Only trained and authorised staff should provide intimate care
- Wherever possible, care should be provided by a consistent member of staff
- Staff should explain what they are doing and seek the pupil's agreement

- Staff must maintain professional boundaries at all times

It is recommended (where possible) that:

- Two staff members are aware that intimate care is taking place
- Doors are not fully closed (unless required for dignity), or visibility is maintained appropriately

6. Intimate Care Plans

For pupils requiring regular intimate care, an Intimate Care Plan (ICP) should be developed in partnership with:

- Parents/carers
- Relevant professionals (e.g. healthcare staff)

The plan should include:

- Specific care needs
- Level of independence
- Preferred methods of support
- Any medical considerations

7. Working with Parents/Carers

The school will:

- Work in partnership with parents/carers
- Obtain written consent for intimate care, where required
- Communicate any concerns or changes in needs

Parents will be expected to:

- Provide necessary supplies (e.g. nappies, wipes, spare clothing)
- Inform the school of any relevant medical or care updates

8. Health and Safety

Appropriate hygiene procedures must be followed, including:

- Use of gloves and protective equipment
- Safe disposal of waste
- Cleaning of surfaces and equipment

All staff must follow infection control procedures.

9. Record Keeping

The intimate care plan sets out the details of care provided. A written record should be kept where there are any safeguarding concerns or incidents.

Records should be logged on cpoms and include:

- Date and time
- Staff involved
- Nature of care provided
- Any concerns noted

10. Safeguarding Allegations

Any allegation or concern relating to intimate care must be:

- Reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding
- Managed in line with safeguarding and allegations procedures

11. Equality and Inclusion

The school will ensure that intimate care:

- Respects cultural and religious sensitivities
- Meets the needs of pupils with SEND or medical conditions
- Promotes equality of access to education

12. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years or in line with updates to statutory guidance.

13. Links to Other Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
- Medical Needs Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- SEND & Inclusion Policy