



Intimate Care Policy

Key Document Details

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Overview

All children at Shaw School have the right to be safe and be treated with dignity, respect and privacy at all times. This policy sets out clear principles and guidelines on supporting intimate care with specific reference to toileting. It should be considered in line with our Safeguarding Policy, Health and Safety Policies and Administering of Medicines policy.

This policy supports the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) 2016 and the Disability Discrimination Act 2005: All staff will ensure that:

- No child's physical, mental or sensory impairment will have an adverse effect on their ability to take part in day to day activities.
- No child with a named condition that affects personal development will be discriminated against
- No child who is delayed in achieving continence will be refused admission
- No child will be sent home or have to wait for their parents/carer due to incontinence
- Adjustments will be made for any child who has delayed incontinence

Intimate Care Tasks – cover any tasks that involve the dressing and undressing, washing including intimate parts, helping someone to use the toilet, changing nappies or carrying out a procedure that requires direct or indirect contact to an intimate personal area.

Partnership with Parents/Carers

Staff at Shaw School work in partnership with parents and carers to provide care appropriate to the needs of the individual child. When specific needs are identified will produce a care plan together. The care plan will set out:

- What care is required
- Number of staff needed to carry out the task (if more than one person is required, the reason will be documented)
- Additional equipment required
- Child's preferred means of communication (e.g. visual, verbal). Agree terminology for parts of the body and bodily functions
- Child's level of ability i.e. what tasks they are able to do by themselves
- Acknowledgement and respect for any cultural or religious sensitivities related to aspects of intimate care
- Be regularly monitored and reviewed in accordance with the child's development

Parents and carers are asked to supply the following:

- Spare nappies
- Wipes, creams, nappy sacks
- Spare Clothes
- Spare underwear
- Required items for personal cases

Best Practice in ALL intimate care

Whether or not a specific care plan is in place, when intimate care is given, the member of staff will explain each task that is carried out and the reason for it. Staff will encourage children to do as much for themselves as they can and lots of praise and encouragement will be given to the child along the way. Whenever possible, a second adult will be present if the child is unable to undertake the tasks themselves.

All staff working in the school must have a DBS check.

Particular staff members are identified to change a child with identified needs and they plan and record their work with that child.

Safeguarding

Staff are trained on the signs and symptoms of child abuse which fall in line with the White Horse Federation Safeguarding guidelines and are aware of the DFES booklet 'What to do if you think a child is being abused' and will follow the guidance given.

If a member of staff is concerned about any physical or emotional change, such as marks, bruises, soreness or distress they will inform the named Safeguarding Designated Officer immediately. The Safeguarding Policy will then be implemented.

Should a child become unhappy about being cared for by a particular member of staff, a member of the Senior Leadership Team/ SENCO will look into the situation and record any findings. These will be discussed with the child's parents/carers in order to resolve the problem. If necessary, the Senior Leader/ SENCO will seek advice from other agencies.

If a child makes an allegation against a member of staff, the procedure set out in the White Horse Federation Safeguarding Policy will be followed.

Dealing with body fluids

Urine, faeces, blood and vomit will be cleaned up immediately and disposed of safely by double bagging and placing into the sanitary bins in the adult toilets. When dealing with body fluids, staff will wear protective clothing (disposal plastic gloves and aprons) and wash themselves thoroughly afterwards. Soiled clothing will be double bagged immediately and sent home with the child at the end of the school day. Children will be kept away from the affected area until the incident has been completely dealt with.

All staff will maintain high standards of personal hygiene and will take all practicable steps to prevent and control the spread of infection. This policy aims to manage risks associated with toileting and intimate care needs and ensures that employees do not work outside the remit of their responsibilities set out in this policy.