



Intimate Care Policy for the Foundation Stage

Person(s) responsible for this policy		Head of EYFS	
Last review by	S Dowler	Review date	Sep 2024
Date of next review		September 2025	

Aims

- To safeguard the rights and promote the best interests of the children
- To ensure children are treated with sensitivity and respect, and in such a way that their experience of intimate care is a positive one
- To safeguard adults required to operate in sensitive situations
- To raise awareness and provide a clear procedure for intimate care
- To inform parents/carers in how intimate care is administered
- To ensure parents/carers are consulted in the intimate care of their children

SCHS is committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for intimate care of children will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times. We take our responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children in our care seriously.

Intimate care is one of the following:

- Supporting a child with dressing/undressing
- Providing comfort or support for a distressed child
- Assisting a child requiring medical care, who is not able to carry this out unaided
- Cleaning a child who has soiled herself, has vomited or feels unwell

Sometimes it will be necessary for staff to aid a child in getting dressed or undressed. Staff will always encourage children to attempt undressing & dressing unaided.

We understand that at such an early age a child may have toilet accidents and so we will change a child as required. Children will be changed by a member of the EYFS team. We do not apply nappy creams to children due to child protection issues. In cases where it is felt absolutely necessary, then a medical form will need to be completed first.

Should a child require a change of clothing during a session a limited range of clean clothing is available. Clothing that is soiled, for whatever reason, will only be handled by a staff member wearing disposable gloves. There are no laundry facilities for children's clothing on the premises and all dirty or wet clothing will be placed in a plastic bag and given to the parent/carer.

Parents are asked to ensure a spare set of clothing is sent to school with their child each day.

Our Approach

- We will always treat children with respect when intimate care is given.
- No child shall be attended to in a way that causes distress, embarrassment or pain.
- Children will be changed by member of the EYFS team.
- Staff who provide intimate care are trained to do so (including Child Protection) and fully aware of best practice.
- Children will be supported to achieve the highest level of independence possible, according to their individual condition and abilities.
- Careful consideration will be given to individual situations to determine how many adults should be present during intimate care procedures. Where possible one child will be cared for by one adult unless there is a sound reason for having more adults present.
- Children will be undressed in stages to ensure they are not completely naked at any point. However, in exceptional circumstances if the accident means that separate stages are not possible, a second adult will always be present with good visibility of the member of staff whilst the child is being changed. The procedure will be completed as quickly as possible to avoid any kind of distress for the child.
- The needs and wishes of children and parents will be considered wherever possible, within the constraints of staffing and equal opportunities legislation.
- The changing of a child will be logged on CPOMS and parents are to be notified at the end of the day unless staff feel an immediate phone call is necessary,