



Intimate Care Policy Academic Year 2020 - 21

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment.

Policy Developed: September 2019

Policy approved: September 17th, 2019

Policy adapted due to COVID19: December 2020

Next review: December 2021

STRENGTHS OF OUR SCHOOL



The Children

- Are well behaved, calm and polite
- Are engaged, positive and resilient
- Are supportive and helpful towards others
- Have an input on important decisions
- Have a sense of belonging

The Community

- School supports the whole family not just the child
- Recognises the importance of attendance
- Spreads our growing reputation as a good school
- Helps celebrate the children's achievements
- Supports the school on improving behaviour

The Curriculum

- Is a fun curriculum that is engaging
- Maintains a strong focus on the basic skills
- Is enriched through extra-curricular activities
- Supports our most vulnerable children
- Provides a rich variety of experiences & opportunities

The Staff

- Develop nurturing relationships with children
- Provide good quality teaching and learning
- Support one another to help the children
- Are consistent in how they treat children
- Identify children's SEN needs early

THE CURRICULUM WE HOPE TO PROVIDE



Skills

Fluent and confident in Reading, Writing and Maths
Communicate with confidence
ICT skills fit for the future
Life skills – money, time, cooking
Safety skills – Swimming, healthy choices
Problem solving skills – Patience & Resilience

Attitudes

Confident and independent
The belief they can reach for the stars
Celebrate a range of cultures
Take responsibility for the environment
Be honest and learn from their mistakes
Children who are caring and helpful

Experiences

To have 1st hand experiences of...
Going away on a residential trip
Visiting a range of places of worship
A chance to look after an animal
Relevant trips to theatres/farms/beaches
Taking part in public performances
Work experiences & further education

Knowledge

High school ready English & maths
To know about local places of interest
To know where we are in the world
Life skills – money, time, cooking
Information about possible careers
To know major historical facts
To know their own strengths

This Intimate Care Policy has been developed to safeguard children, support staff and ensure good practice is followed. At Hunslet Carr Primary School School all staff are checked with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and we are committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of children will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times. We believe that the intimate care of children is paramount to their overall health and wellbeing and we actively encourage the children to be involved in this process.

Definition:

Intimate care is any care which is associated with invasive procedures relating to bodily functions, bodily products and personal hygiene which demands direct or indirect contact with or exposure of intimate parts of the body, such as cleaning up after a child who has soiled themselves. In addition, some children may need help with dressing/undressing or using the toilet. Most children can carry out these functions themselves but it is recognised that some are unable to due to physical disability, learning difficulties, medical needs or needs arising from the child's stage of development.

If a child expresses discomfort, either physically or verbally regarding their intimate parts, it is **not** a matter that should be dealt with by school staff, a phone call will be made to parents at the earliest opportunity. There will be an expectation that parents will come into school to decide on the next course of action for their child.

If these concerns are of a safeguarding nature, they should be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

This intimate care policy should be read in conjunction with the schools' policies and guidance as below:

- Health and Safety Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, including Allegations Management Procedure.
- Administering Medicine Policy
- Confidentiality Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Safer Working Practice Guidance
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Leeds City Council Intimate Care Guidance

Principles of Intimate Care:

- Every child has the right to be safe.
- Every child has the right to personal privacy.
- Every child has the right to be valued as an individual.
- Every child has the right to be treated with dignity and respect.
- Every child has the right to be involved and consulted in their own intimate care to the best of their abilities.
- Every child has the right to express their views on their own intimate care and to have such views taken into account.
- Every child has the right to have levels of intimate care that are as consistent as possible.

Intimate Care Expectations at Hunslet Carr

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

We appreciate that sometimes children have toileting 'accidents' which are out of character for them. In the event of this, and in the absence of an intimate care plan, the child would be fully encouraged and supported to achieve the highest level of independence that is possible given their age and ability. Parents will be notified the same day if their child has needed assistance.

On the rare occasion that a child is soiled to a point where they are unable to clean themselves to a comfortable state, parents will be contacted immediately, so that the child could be taken home to be cleaned thoroughly.

Where children require regular assistance with intimate care, they will have an Intimate Care Plan (ICP) in place, which have been agreed by staff, parents/carers and any other professionals actively involved.

The plan should be regularly reviewed with parents, in line with the child's personal development or change of circumstances, e.g. for residential trips or staff changes.

Every child's right to privacy and modesty will be respected. Careful consideration will be given to each pupil's situation to determine who and how many carers might need to be present when s/he needs help with intimate care.

Staff carrying out intimate care, as set out in the child's ICP, in the changing facility will be accompanied nearby by another adult to assist if needed. Wherever possible, the pupil's wishes and feelings should be sought and taken into account and staff will be vigilant and responsive to a child's reactions.

From a child protection perspective, it is acknowledged that intimate care involves risks for children and adults as it may involve staff touching intimate parts of a pupil's body. At Hunslet Carr Primary School, consistent and clear practice will be promoted and all adults will be encouraged to be vigilant at all times, to seek advice where relevant and take account of safer working practice e.g. The practitioner may ask the child "Is it Ok to do it this way?" "Can you wash there?" "How does mummy do that?"

If staff are unsure how to carry out certain intimate care or treatment procedures, or they are unsure on any aspect of intimate care, they should **stop** and seek immediate advice from their line manager, senior member of staff or Designated Safeguarding Lead.

The Protection of Children

- Safeguarding and Child Protection procedures will be adhered to.
- All children will be taught personal safety skills carefully matched to their level of development and understanding to build their confidence and assertiveness about their own body and its worth.
- Within our school curriculum, including PSHE lessons, children will be taught about the changes to their body and about how to keep their body safe. This will include lessons designed by the NSPCC around the 'under pants' rule.
- Confident and assertive children who feel their body belongs to them are less vulnerable to abuse.
- If a member of staff has a concern about physical changes in a child's presentation, e.g. marks, bruises, soreness etc. s/he will immediately report concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- If a child becomes distressed or unhappy about being cared for by a particular member of staff as part of their ICP, parents/carers will be contacted at the earliest opportunity to discuss the concerns in order to reach a resolution.

Allegations of Abuse

Members of staff working in intimate situations with children can feel particularly vulnerable. This policy can help to reassure both staff involved and the parents of vulnerable children. Action will be taken immediately should there be a discrepancy of reports between a child and the member of staff.

Where there is an allegation of abuse, the guidelines in the Allegations Management Procedures will be followed. If staff are concerned about a child's demeanour during or following intimate care, or has responded to or said something that has caused concern during the intimate care, they will report such incidents immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead both in person and as soon as possible via CPOMS, who will follow the correct safeguarding procedures.

Health and Safety

Staff should always wear gloves when dealing with a child who is bleeding or soiled or when changing a soiled nappy. (The school will provide gloves, a bin and liners to dispose of any waste)

Any soiled waste should be placed in a polythene waste disposal bag which can be sealed. This bag should then be placed in an appropriate bin which is specifically designated for the disposal of such waste.

Covid-19

In addition to the PPE required for dealing with soiled waste, staff will be expected to wear appropriate PPE in-line with school policy and government guidance to ensure safe practices and to reduce the spread of infection.