

INTIMATE CARE POLICY

ORIGINATOR: Kelly Jackson

SLT LINK: Stuart Williams

September 2023



Within this policy 'we' and 'us' means the Federation.

We are committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of pupils will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times. We recognise that there is a need to treat all pupils with respect when intimate care is given. No pupil should be attended to in a way that causes distress, embarrassment or pain.

Intimate care is any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out a procedure (such as cleaning up after a pupil has soiled himself/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.

There may be times when staff will need to provide intimate care for a pupil: this may include removing clothes due to soiling or vomiting. Staff will follow the procedure below:

- Always treat the pupil they are supporting with dignity and respect.
- Explain to the pupil that the staff member needs to help them to get cleaned up. If age appropriate ask them to perform some or all of the tasks themselves.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be worn by staff in order to prevent cross contamination. PPE is single-use equipment and must be disposed of after every use in the bin provided.
- Soiled clothing/items will be double wrapped and either disposed of or handed back to parent/guardian.
- All efforts will be made to provide a private space for the pupil to be changed in. This area may change depending on session time and the needs of the pupil.
- Pupils will not be lifted or supported under the arms.
- Before leaving the bathroom, staff will encourage and ensure that the pupil has washed their hands.
- Surfaces must always be disinfected after use to avoid cross contamination.
- Staff will wash their hands and use the antibacterial gel provided.
- Only staff will be allowed to provide intimate care. Students, parents and volunteers are not permitted to do this.
- If a pupil objects to a member of staff providing intimate care, parents will be contacted to come and provide the care themselves if necessary.
- Pupils will be encouraged to be as independent as possible.