Intimate Care Policy 25 26

Role of the Governing Body

The Governing Body recognises its duties and responsibilities in relation to the Disability Discrimination Act which requires that any child with an impairment that affects their ability to carry out normal day to-day activities must not be discriminated against.

Best practice

Derwent and Southill Schools are committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of children undertake their duties in a professional manner. We recognise that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given. The management of all children with intimate care needs will be carefully planned. No child should be attended to in a way that causes distress or pain. The child's welfare and dignity is of paramount importance.

Children with no disability or medical condition affecting toileting issues

It is expected that children will be toilet trained and out of nappies or pull ups before they begin at preschool at 3 years old unless there is a disability or medical condition that prevents this.
Where this is not the case, parents and children will be supported to achieve a child's autonomy in this necessary area. **Parents will provide spare clothing, wipes, bags, nappies and pull ups.**

It is inevitable that from time to time some children will have accidents and need to be attended to. For this reason, permission to provide intimate care is sought when children enter Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and staff will be aware of those children where no permission is given. All accidents will be recorded by staff and reported to parents at the end of the day in confidence either in person, by phone, letter, e-mail or a message in the class dojo.

Parents will be asked to attend the setting to change their child if the child appears ill, distressed or the degree of soiling means adequate cleaning with available resources is not possible or when the child may find being changed distressing or embarrassing.
EYFS staff have access to a toilet area with toilet, wash basin, changing mat and spare clothes. Staff must wear the gloves and aprons provided when changing a child.

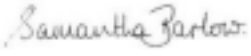
Children with disabilities or medical conditions

For those children who require regular intimate care, due to a disability or medical condition, the staff providing such care will be appropriately trained. Staff will work in close partnership with parents and carers to share information and provide continuity of care. Pupils will be supported and encouraged to achieve the highest level of independence possible, according to their individual condition, age and abilities. The needs and wishes of children and parents will be taken into account wherever possible, within the constraints of staffing and equal opportunities legislation.

Individual care plans will be drawn up for any pupil requiring regular intimate care as appropriate to suit the circumstances of the child. Each child's right to privacy will be respected. Careful consideration will be given to individual situations to determine how many adults should be present during intimate care procedures. Where possible one pupil will be cared for by one adult unless there is a sound reason for having more adults present. All staff members required to provide intimate care will be trained appropriately. All intimate care procedures will be recorded in a daily log.

Where specialist equipment and facilities above those currently available in the school are required, every effort will be made to provide appropriate facilities in a timely fashion, following assessment by appropriate specialists such as a Bowel Nurse, Physiotherapist or Occupational Therapist.
Parents will be expected to provide consumables such as nappies, pull up, wipes, clothing etc.

Child protection
Education Child Protection Procedures and Inter-Agency Child Protection procedures will be adhered to. All children will be taught personal safety skills carefully matched to their level of development and understanding. If a member of staff has any concerns about physical changes in a child's presentation (unexplained marks, bruises or soreness for example) they will follow the procedures laid out in the Derwent and Southill Lower Schools safeguarding policy.
If a child becomes distressed or unhappy about being cared for by a particular member of staff, the matter will be investigated at an appropriate level and outcomes recorded.
Parents/carers will be contacted at the earliest opportunity as part of the process of reaching a resolution. Further advice will be taken from partner agencies.
If a child makes an allegation about a member of staff this will be investigated in accordance with CBC policy on staff facing an allegation of abuse.

Policy Review
The Governing Body of our school is responsible for ensuring the review of this policy, and for reporting back to the Local Authority.
Date policy agreed:September 2025
Signed Andrew Jackson (Chair of Governors)

Signed Samantha Barlow (Executive Headteacher)