



Barlby Primary School

Intimate Care Policy

Policy reviewed:	June 2025
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Intimate Care Policy

Definition of Intimate Care

Intimate care is defined as care tasks of an intimate nature, associated with bodily functions, body products, medication and personal hygiene which need direct or indirect contact with or exposure of the child's body.

If a child is likely to require intimate care (for example a child with SEND), this will be identified by the SENCO/Senior Leadership Team and the SENCO/Senior Leader with gain consent from the parents/carers.

Implementation

1. Children requiring intimate care are treated with respect at all times and there must be discretion and privacy. If a child needs intimate care in a shared space and cannot be moved due to dysregulation, then adults will act to protect their modesty in the first circumstance - this may be removing others from the space or covering the pupil with a blanket/towel.
2. There is careful communication with a child before any intimate care is carried out to prepare them for what will be happening to them and why.
3. Wherever feasible, two members of staff must be present but no more (privacy & respect).
4. All children are given support in communication so that they can understand and respond to intimate care and can express their views through objects of reference, gesture, signing, symbols, schedules and/or words.
5. All children and especially those learning in the Orchard should be supported by an adult with whom they are familiar.
6. Children are given the highest possible level of autonomy during intimate care, and the aim is always to teach them to be able to *carry out their own care* where possible and appropriate.
7. Staff who carry out intimate care will have support and will be aware of best practice from their class teacher, for instance-wearing gloves, gaining support from another member of staff.
8. Older children who need intimate care will receive it if possible from a person of the same gender although male staff should not carry out a task without a female member of staff being present.
9. Children have a range of known carers to avoid over dependence on an individual staff member.
10. Parents must be informed immediately if their child has been in need of intimate care and if in doubt call the parent/carer for their view.
11. In the event that a child may be in need of intimate care but this has not been agreed previously with parents/carers, the parent or carer must be contacted to request permission to check the child intimately following all the steps outlined in this policy. Do not remove clothing without a parent/carers permission. Every effort must be made to ascertain which child has soiled themselves if for example there is a strong odour in a classroom/group environment.
12. Medication can be administered by school staff with written/e-mailed permission from parents/carers. Any medication administered must be recorded- please see School Medicines Policy. Administering medicine must be recorded on CPOMS.



13. Where a child has received a blow to an intimate area eg. a football injury, they will be asked to check themselves privately for signs of injury.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Child Protection Policy and Health & Safety Policy.