



Trafford Metropolitan Borough

Policy area	Safeguarding
Policy Title	Intimate Care
Policy Leader	Anne Homer
Policy Date	December 2016
Policy Review	December 2019

We believe intimate care is any activity such as feeding, oral care, washing, changing clothes, toileting, first aid and medical assistance, comforting and support, and supervising intimate self-care that is required to meet the personal needs of a child regularly or during a one-off incident.

We have a duty to safeguard children and school personnel at all times. We must develop independence in each child but on those occasions when children need assistance they must feel safe, have personal privacy, feel valued, are treated with dignity and respect, are involved and consulted about their own intimate care with school personnel that are specially trained in intimate care procedures.

We treat every child as an individual treating them gently and sensitively as possible.

Aims

- To safeguard the rights of children.
- To safeguard school personnel trained in intimate care procedures.

Procedure

Role of the Governing Body

- The GB has:
 - delegated powers and responsibilities to the Headteacher in the delivery of this policy;
 - nominated a link governor to visit the school regularly, to liaise with the Headteacher and to report back to the GB;
 - responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy



Role of the Headteacher

- The Headteacher will ensure:
 - all school personnel are aware of this policy;
 - all parents are aware of this policy;
 - school personnel who provide intimate care are suitably trained to do so;
 - that new developments, resources and equipment are brought to the attention of the appropriate school personnel;
 - that this policy is monitored and evaluated and any recommendations for improvement are reported to the GB

Role of School Personnel with Responsibilities for Intimate Care

- School personnel will:
 - receive training in Child Protection, First Aid, intimate care procedures, and Health and Safety training in moving and handling;
 - be professional in their duties at all times;
 - be respectful of a child's needs;
 - preserve a child's dignity and respect with a high level of privacy, choice and control appropriate to the child's age and situation;
 - be aware of a child's method and level of communication;
 - make sure practice in intimate care is consistent;
 - be aware of their own limitations;
 - promote positive self-esteem and body image;
 - work in partnership with parents/carers;
 - report any concerns they have about a child;
 - report any concerns they have about a colleague's intimate care practice;
 - be aware of the danger of allegations being made against them;
 - take precautions to avoid risk



Role of Parents

- Parents will:
 - advise the school of any known intimate care needs relating to their child;
 - be involved with their child's intimate care arrangements on a regular basis

Rights of the Child

- All children have the right to be treated:
 - with sensitivity and respect in such a way that their experience of intimate care is a positive one;
 - by professionals suitably trained and assessed to be competent to undertake procedures in intimate care

Monitoring the Effectiveness of the Policy

- The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed when necessary, and recommendations for improvement will be made to the governors.