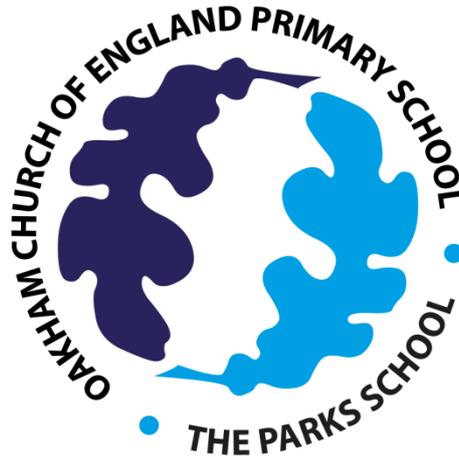


Oakham Church of England Primary and The Parks School

**Passion, Fellowship, Pride, Humility, Perseverance, Hope,
Purpose & Thankfulness**



Intimate Care Policy

Date	November 2018
Approved by Executive Headteacher	Steve Cox
Approved by Chair of Governors	Nick Cooper
Review Date	November 2020

Policy for Intimate Care

Introduction

Oakham Church of England Primary and The Parks School is committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of children will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times. Oakham Church of England Primary and The Parks School recognises that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given in line with our schools Christian Vision and Mission. No child should be attended to in a way that causes distress or pain.

“In loving Christian **Fellowship** we equip everyone to have a **Passion** for life and learning; to have **Pride** in our local community and be **Thankful** for all the parts which make us whole; building **Hope** and resilience to **Persevere** and develop a sense of **Humility** and **Purpose** in our lives.” Our Vision is at the forefront of our thinking and decision making when writing, reviewing and updating all school procedures and policies.

What is Intimate Care?

Intimate care can be defined as care tasks of an intimate nature, associated with bodily functions, body products and personal hygiene which demand direct or indirect contact with or exposure of the genitals. Intimate care is any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out a procedure (such as cleaning up after a child 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.

Who will provide Intimate Care?

Only staff will be allowed to provide intimate care. Students, parents and volunteers are NOT permitted to do this. Staff who work with young children or children who have special needs will realise that the issue of intimate care is a difficult one and will require staff to be respectful of children's needs.

Children's dignity will be preserved and a high level of privacy, and where possible choice and control will be provided to them. Staff who provide intimate care to children must have a high awareness of child protection issues. Staff behaviour is open to scrutiny and staff at Oakham Church of England Primary and The Parks School work in partnership with parents/carers to provide continuity of care to children wherever possible.

Staff who provide intimate care are fully aware of best practice. Apparatus will be provided to assist with children who need special arrangements following assessment from physiotherapist/occupational therapist as required. Staff will be supported to adapt their practice in relation to the needs of individual children.

What is the procedure?

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

- Wherever possible it will be provided by two members of staff.
- Always treat the children they are supporting with dignity and respect.
- There is careful communication with each child who needs help with intimate care in line with their preferred means of communication (verbal, symbolic etc.)

to discuss the child's needs and preferences. The child is aware of each procedure that is carried out and the reasons for it. If age appropriate ask them to perform some 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 wrapped and either disposed of or handed back to parent/guardian.
- All efforts will be made to provide a private space for the child to be changed in. This area may change depending on session time and the needs of the child. If changing takes place on the floor a changing mat will be used.
- Before leaving the bathroom, staff will encourage and ensure that the child 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.
- All occurrences of intimate care support are recorded.

As a basic principle children will be supported to achieve the highest level of autonomy that is possible given their age and abilities. Staff will encourage each child to do as much for themselves as they can.

Staff deliver a full personal safety curriculum as part of PSHE to all children as appropriate to their development level and degree of understanding. This work is shared with parents who are encouraged to reinforce the personal safety messages within the home.

For those children with medical needs or those who start school still in nappies parents/carers will be involved with discussing and agreeing their child's intimate care arrangements, which may be reviewed on an ongoing basis.