



CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

ONE BODY, MANY PARTS

Intimate Care and Toileting Policy

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Reviewed | September 2022 | | |
| Approved | Governing Body | Meeting Date | 22 nd September 2022 |
| Review Cycle | Annually | | |
| Next review | Autumn 2023 | | |

Introduction

Intimate care is considered to be any activity carried out to maintain the personal hygiene and/or health and wellbeing of a child where the activity involves touching or carrying out an intimate procedure on a child.

Examples of these care activities include:

- supporting a child with toileting;
- wiping and cleaning a child who has wet or soiled themselves e.g. 'had a toileting accident' in school;
- dressing / undressing support for PE or swimming;
- drying a child after swimming;

Such intimate care is part of a school's duty of care to the child.

The School Context

The issue of intimate care is a sensitive one for both staff and parents/carers alike. It requires staff to be respectful and supportive of the child's needs so that parents/carers will be reassured that any procedure will be handled professionally at all times. At Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School the child's dignity will always be preserved with a high level of privacy, choice and control.

There will always be a high awareness of child protection issues. All staff at the school have a current enhanced CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) check or DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check to ensure that they are suitable adults to work with children and young people. Staff behaviour must and will be open to scrutiny and staff must and will work in partnership with parents/carers to provide continuity of care to children/young people wherever possible.

The following policy is based on best practice.

Aims and Objectives

Corpus Christi Catholic Primary 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. We recognise that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given and staff will, at all times, strive to maintain dignity and privacy. No child should be attended to in a way that causes distress or pain.

Our Approach to Best Practice

The management of all children with intimate care needs will be carefully planned.

Some children may, as a result of medical or learning needs, require support with toileting on a regular basis and if this is the case then school will write a **Personal Care Needs Plan** for such pupils.

Some children may rarely or even as a 'one-off' occurrence will soil or wet themselves, 'have an accident', whilst in school. These pupils will not need a Personal Care Needs Plan but will be supported according to the procedures outlined within this document.

Some children may require the support of adults to carry out a specific procedure where a child has medical needs e.g. stoma care or catheterization. In this case only a person suitably trained and assessed as competent will undertake the procedure and this will be subject to a written **protocol** within a **Personal Care Needs Plan** agreed with parents/carers and healthcare professionals if appropriate.

Any child with intimate care needs will be supported to achieve the highest level of independence that is possible given their age and abilities. Staff will encourage each child to do as much for him/herself as s/he can. This may mean, for example, giving the child responsibility for washing themselves.

Each child's right to privacy will be respected. Careful consideration will be given to each child's situation to determine how many carers might need to be present when a child is toileted. There is no legal requirement to have two members of staff present when intimate care activities take place. Where possible, the child will be supported by one adult, unless there is a sound reason for having more adults present e.g. if the child is moved by use of a hoist and sling. If this is the case, the reasons will be clearly documented.

Where regular support is required the school will, if possible, attempt to ensure that the child will not be cared for by the same adult on every occasion; ideally there will be a rota of carers who will become well known to the child and who will take turns in providing care.

Ideally, staff should only care intimately for an individual of the same sex. However, at Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School this principle may be waived due to the lack of male staff and where failure to provide appropriate care would result in negligence.

Where a child has a Personal Care Needs Plan, this will be discussed and reviewed with parents on a regular basis. The needs and wishes of children and parents will be taken into account wherever possible within the constraints of staffing.

The Protection of Children

The school adheres to all Education Child Protection Procedures and Inter-Agency Child Protection procedures. All children will be taught personal safety skills carefully matched to their level of development and understanding. If a staff member has any concerns about a child physically (bruises, marks etc) or emotionally they will immediately report concerns as per the school's safeguarding procedures.

If a child becomes distressed or unhappy regarding being cared for by a particular member of staff, the matter will be looked into by the school's senior leadership team, parents will be consulted and outcomes recorded. Staffing schedules may be altered until the issue is resolved as the child's needs remain paramount. If a child makes allegations against a member of staff, necessary safeguarding procedures will be followed.

The expectation is that when members of staff make physical contact with pupils it will be:

- only to support a child in a task that they are unable to carry out for themselves;
- for the least amount of time necessary (limited touch);
- appropriate, given their age, stage of development and background;
- in response to the pupil's needs at the time;
- carried out in a manner that maintains the child/young person's dignity at all times.

Implementing this policy in school

This document covers a number of possible scenarios that may occur in our school:

1. a child requires *regular* support with dressing and/or toileting and has a Personal Care Needs Plan;
2. a child does not require regular support with toileting but 'has an accident' in school – is wet (urine) and/or soiled (faeces).

1. Scenario: child requires regular dressing and/or toileting support

The school is aware that children with special needs or medical/physical needs may have additional vulnerabilities which must be considered when drawing up care plans for them as individuals. Regardless of age and ability, the views and emotional responses of children with such needs will be actively sought when drawing up or reviewing a Personal Care Needs Plan.

Any child requiring regular dressing and/or toileting support will have a Personal Care Needs Plan which will be agreed and signed by the parent/carer. This plan will outline who is responsible for supporting the child, where the support will take place, the procedure to be followed on every occasion, the resources required for the task, responsibilities for supplying these resources, any record keeping required and any training received or required. This plan allows school and parents to be aware of the complete procedure surrounding the task from the outset.

Although there may be specific requirements as reflected in individual Personal Care Needs Plans there is a general toileting procedure that staff at school will follow. Staff will always wear a single use disposable apron and gloves when carrying out the support. As the child will be school age it is more appropriate to refer to 'nappies' as 'pads' to avoid negative perceptions about the child being 'at the baby stage'. As a general rule changing a pad takes place with the child stood up in the designated area. The child is encouraged to hold the handrail for support whilst their pad or soiled underwear is changed. Any wet or soiled waste e.g. pads, wipes and gloves will be placed in a polythene waste disposal bag and sealed. The bag will then be placed in a bin (with a liner) specifically allocated for this purpose. This bin will be collected on a weekly basis as part of the usual refuse or sooner if required.

Soiled or wet clothing will be placed in a plastic bag and sealed. At the end of the school day staff will discreetly pass this over to parents/carers when collecting their child and verbally give details of the circumstances.

2. Scenario: Child not requiring regular dressing and/or toileting support

In the event of a child becoming wet or soiled i.e. 'having an accident' in school, staff will quickly assess what actions need to be taken as below:

If the child is *wet and/or slightly soiled*, a member of staff will discreetly escort the child to the nearest 'accessible' toilet where there is more space to carry out the support task. Staff will support changing of clothing and will initially encourage the child to clean themselves with wipes. However they may support the cleaning/wiping process if the child is unable to do this or is distressed. At the same time a member of staff will action the school's procedure to clean any waste from the classroom area.

In both of the above cases staff will carry out the procedures following health and safety guidelines e.g. using gloves and aprons.

Soiled or wet clothing will be placed in a plastic bag and sealed. At the end of the school day staff will discreetly pass this over to parents/carers when collecting their child and verbally give details of the circumstances

Off-site educational trips and visits

Where a child has a Personal Care Needs Plan, consultation with colleagues should take place where any deviation from arrangements is anticipated e.g. on an educational school trip or visit as the same standard and level of facilities may not be available off site. Any deviation from the agreed plan will be documented and reported.

**Home-School Partnership Agreement
for Managing Personal Care Needs
by the Intimate Care and Toileting Policy
at Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School**

To be completed on admission:

The Parent/Carer:

- I have read the intimate care policy.
- I understand and agree to the procedures that will be followed when my child is supported with toileting at school in the event him/her 'having an accident' i.e. wetting or soiling him/herself.
- I agree to inform the school should my child have any toileting needs.

In EYFS all parents of a PCP are asked to provide spare clothes in a bag regardless of whether or not their child is toilet trained.

The school:

- We agree to take action to immediately support your child should he/she 'have an accident' i.e. wet or soil themselves in school.
- We agree to monitor the number of times the child requires toileting support, inform you should this be a frequent occurrence and work with you to support your child's continence.
- We agree to adhere to the school's Intimate Care and Toileting Policy at all times.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| NAME OF CHILD | |
| CLASS | |
| NAME OF PARENT/CARER | |
| SIGNED | |
| DATE | |

PERSONAL CARE NEEDS PLAN

CONFIDENTIAL

for { Name of Pupil} in Year

Date of plan: {Insert Date}

Review Date: {Insert Date}

INSERT PHOTO
OF PUPIL
HERE

This plan has been discussed with parents/carers and the pupil, if appropriate. Signed permission has been obtained for this plan to be followed during the school day.

This plan is to be reviewed yearly (or sooner if needs change) in consultation with parents/carers and, if appropriate, the pupil.

Staff involved in routinely meeting this pupil's personal care needs:

Medical information

Mobility

Communication Skills

Details of Plan

Procedure:

Facilities, Resources & Equipment needed:

Management of Personal Care Needs

Management and review of the personal care needs plan with staff, parents/carers and pupil, if appropriate, is the responsibility of the SENCO or School Lead. Day to day responsibility for the implementation of this personal needs care plan remains the responsibility of the staff named above.

Level of Supervision: 1 to

Confidentiality Agreement

Parents/carers and pupil (if appropriate) agree that this is to be shared with key staff who will treat all information confidentially and will respect the dignity and privacy of this pupil.

Additional Roles of Support Staff:

I have read and agree to this procedure for {Name of Pupil}:

Learning Support Assistant

Parent/Carer

Date





Date: _____

_____ Class/Form

teacher Date: _____

_____ SENCO/Lead Date: _____

Termly Staff Briefing Please date and initial in the boxes below following each briefing on the contents of this protocol.

Term 1

Term 2

Term 3

