

Aintree Davenhill Primary School



Intimate Care Policy

Review Date: July 2027

Statement of Intent

Aintree Davenhill Primary understands the importance of its responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Pupils may require assistance with intimate care as a result of their age or due to having SEND. In all instances, effective safeguarding procedures are of paramount importance.

This policy has been developed to ensure that all staff responsible for providing intimate care undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times and treat children with sensitivity and respect.

The school is committed to providing intimate care for children in ways that:

- Maintain their dignity.
- Are sensitive to their needs and preferences.
- Maximise their safety and comfort.
- Protect them against intrusion and abuse.
- Respect the child's right to give or withdraw their consent.
- Encourage the child to care for themselves as much as they can.
- Protect the rights of all others involved.

Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Equality Act 2010
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Childcare Act 2006
- Education Act 2002
- Education Act 2011
- The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (as amended in 2004)
- DfE 'Keeping children safe in education 2025'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Administering Medication Policy
- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Allegations of Abuse Against Staff Policy

Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, 'intimate care' is the hands-on, physical care in personal hygiene, as well as physical presence or observation during such activities.

Intimate care can be classed as 'Routine' or 'Occasional' and includes the following:

- Helping a child with eating and drinking for dietary or medical reasons or a disability
- Body bathing other than to the arms and face, and to the legs below the knee
- Application of medical treatment other than to the arms and face, and to the legs below the knee
- Toileting, wiping and care in the genital and anal areas
- Dressing and undressing

Roles and Responsibilities

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Ensuring that intimate care is conducted professionally and sensitively.
- Ensuring that the intimate care of children is carefully planned, including the creation of individual plans following discussions with the parent and the child, with input from the SENCO.
- Communicating with parents in order to establish effective partnerships when providing intimate care to children.
- Handling any complaints about the provision of intimate care in line with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.
- Organising training for the provision of intimate care.

All members of staff who provide intimate care are responsible for:

- Undergoing training for the provision of intimate care.
- Undertaking intimate care practice respectfully, sensitively and in line with the guidelines outlined in this policy.

Parents are responsible for:

- Liaising with the school to communicate their wishes in regard to their child's intimate care.
- Providing their consent to the school's provision of their child's intimate care.
- Adhering to their duties and contributions to their child's intimate care plan, as outlined in this policy.

Procedures for Routine and Occasional Intimate Care

Staff who provide routine intimate care will have a list of personalised changing times for the children in their care, which will be adhered to as closely as possible.

Staff who provide routine intimate care will conduct intimate care procedures in addition to the designated changing times if it is necessary; no child will be left in wet/soiled clothing or nappies.

If the designated member of staff for a child's routine intimate care is absent, a secondary designated member of staff will change the child, adhering to the arranged times.

Each child using nappies should have a clearly labelled bag allocated to them in which there will be clean nappies, wipes and any other individual changing equipment necessary (provided from home).

Before changing any child, members of staff will put on disposable gloves and the changing area will be cleaned appropriately.

The changing areas are warm and comfortable for the children and are private from others.

Hot water and liquid soap are available for staff to wash their hands before and after changing a nappy; the changing area will also be cleaned appropriately after use.

Any soiled clothing will be placed in a tied plastic bag and will be returned to parents at the end of the school day.

Any used nappies will be placed in a tied plastic bag and disposed of in accordance with local waste disposal procedures.

Any bodily fluids that transfer onto the changing area will be cleaned appropriately.

If a pupil requires cream or other medicine, such as for a nappy rash, this will be provided in accordance with the Administering Medication Policy, and full parental consent will be gained prior to this.

Older children and those who are more able will be encouraged to use the toilet facilities and will be reminded at regular intervals to go to the toilet.

Members of staff will use toilet introduction procedures, to get children used to using the toilet and encourage them to be as independent as possible.

Children will be reminded and encouraged to wash their hands after using the toilet, following the correct procedures for using soap and drying their hands.

Eating and Drinking

We recognise that there may be occasions when a child requires adult support when eating and / or drinking due to a disability, dietary or medical needs.

All eating and drinking care will be provided in a manner that preserves dignity, privacy, and respect.

We will make reasonable adjustments to meet the medical and dietary needs of all children.

Parental Engagement

The school will liaise closely with parents to establish individual intimate care programmes for each child (who requires routine daily intimate care) which will set out the following:

- What care is required
- Number of staff needed to carry out the care
- Any additional equipment needed

- The child's preferred means of communication, e.g. visual/verbal, and the terminology to be used for parts of the body and bodily functions
- The child's level of ability, i.e. what procedures of routine intimate care the child can do themselves
- Any adjustments necessary in respect to cultural or religious views
- The procedure for monitoring and reviewing the routine intimate care plan

The information concerning the child's routine intimate care plan will be stored confidentially and only the parents and the adults working with the child will have access to the information.

The parents of a child needing routine intimate care are required to sign the **Routine Daily Intimate Care Parental Consent Form** to provide their agreement to the plan; routine intimate care will not be carried out without prior parental consent.

Any changes that may need to be made to a child's intimate care plan will be discussed with the parents to gain consent and will then be recorded in the written intimate care plan.

Parents will be asked to supply the following items for their child's individual bag:

- Spare nappies
- Wipes, creams, nappy sacks, etc.
- Spare clothing
- Spare underwear
- Training seat for the toilet

We recognise that there are times when a child may require occasional intimate care (such as a toileting accident, illness or splashing / spilling something on themselves). In order to ensure that we are able to provide occasional intimate care, parental consent is sought on admission to school using our school **Parental Consent Google Form**. The following points are outlined:

- I understand that my child may require adult assistance for their personal and intimate care needs.
- I understand the importance of sharing information about my child to provide continuity of care.
- I agree that I will leave a change of clothes for my child in school (Nursery).
- I understand that my child may wear clothing provided by school and I will wash and return the items of clothing back to school.

- I understand that every effort will be made to ensure that my child is changed however sometimes this is not always possible, if my child does not notify a member of staff or a member of staff does not identify that they need changing.

Safeguarding Procedures

The school adopts rigorous safeguarding procedures in accordance with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and will apply these requirements to the intimate care procedures.

Intimate care is classified as regulated activity; therefore, the school will ensure that all adults providing intimate care have undergone an enhanced DBS check, which includes barred list information, enabling them to work with children.

Staff members working directly with children will receive safeguarding training as part of their mandatory induction, in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

All members of staff will receive safeguarding training on an annual basis, and receive child protection and safeguarding updates as required, but at least annually.

All members of staff are instructed to report any concerns about the safety and welfare of children with regards to intimate care, including any unusual marks, bruises or injuries, to the DSL in accordance with the school's Whistleblowing Policy.

Any concerns about the correct safeguarding of children will be dealt with in accordance with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and the Allegations of Abuse Against Staff Policy.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher and EYFS & KS1 Assistant Headteacher, who will make any changes necessary and communicate these to all members of staff.

The next scheduled review date is June 2027.

All members of staff are required to familiarise themselves with this policy as part of their induction programme.

Routine Daily Intimate Care Parental Consent Form

This form is to be completed by the class teacher and signed by parents.

Name of child		Date of birth	
Name of class teacher		Class	
Care requirements, including frequency:			

The table below outlines the member of staff responsible for carrying out your child's intimate care programme, as well as the member of staff responsible in their absence:

Name of staff member	
Name of staff member (in the above staff member's absence)	
Where will the intimate care be carried out?	
What equipment/resources will be required?	
What infection control procedures are in place?	
What disposal procedures are in place?	

What actions will be taken if any concerns arise?
What do parents need to provide?
What are the reporting procedures for parents?

I have read the Early Years Intimate Care Policy provided by Aintree Davenhill Primary School and I agree to the intimate care plan outlined above:

Signature of parent		Date	
Signature of class teacher		Date	