



Knowle Primary School



INTIMATE CARE POLICY

This Policy was adopted and ratified by the Full Governing Body of Knowle Primary School at the meeting held in Term 1 2022.

Approved by: Knowle Primary School
Governing Body

Date: Term 1 2022

Last reviewed on:

Next review due by:

Intimate Care Policy

1. Introduction

Intimate care is any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out an invasive procedure (such as cleaning a pupil after they have soiled themselves) to intimate personal areas. In most cases such care will involve cleaning for hygiene purposes as part of a staff member's duty of care. The issue of intimate care is a sensitive one and will require staff to be respectful of the child's needs. The child's dignity should always be preserved with a high level of privacy, choice and control.

The school's safeguarding policy and the DFE document, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (September 2016) have informed this policy. All staff have been DBS checked and receive regular Child Protection and Safeguarding training. Staff behaviour must be open to scrutiny and staff must work in partnership with parents/carers to provide continuity of care to children wherever possible.

Toileting:

At Knowle Primary School we hope that all children will be toilet trained by the time that they start school in September but we work with parents where this is not the case. We understand that children will have the occasional accident whilst at school and in this instance we will change your child. We would ask that, if your child has accidents occasionally, then you bring them to school with a bag which contains: disposal bags, wipes and pants etc. However, if your child is having regular accidents (three times in a fortnight) and there is no medical issue/disability we will have to phone you in the event of a toileting accident, as we do not have the facilities at school to cater for this. If you receive a phone call we expect you to come and change your child or take them home to clean them before returning them to school to continue their learning.

2. Aims

Knowle 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. Knowle Primary recognises that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given. No child should be attended to in a way that causes distress.

3. Practice

- Children are encouraged to be as independent as possible, particularly with washing and cleaning.
- The child will be told what is being done and why, particularly if physical contact is necessary in intimate areas.
- The Teacher/Teaching Assistant informs another member of staff what they are doing, where and why.
- Privacy of the child is always to be considered eg being allowed to change out of the view of others.
- Doors will not be locked and, where possible, will be left ajar or open.

- If the child is able to change independently then the teacher/TA will wait outside the door.
- If the child becomes stressed for any reason, the teacher should ask another member of staff to be present with them or telephone for their parents.
- Staff will record and log any incidents and parents will be made aware at the end of the day and asked to sign the log.

4. Equipment and provision

Parents have a role to play when their child is still wearing nappies. The parents should provide nappies, disposal bags, wipes etc. and parents should be made aware of this responsibility. Schools are responsible for providing gloves, plastic aprons and a bin to dispose of any waste.

If a child needs intimate care, where they need to be washed, the shower in the disabled toilet in the learning street may be used. Two adults should be in this room as it is not possible to see in from outside.

5. Health and Safety

Staff should always wear an apron and gloves when dealing with a child who is soiled. Any soiled waste should be placed in a polythene waste disposal bag, which can be sealed. This bag should then be placed in a bin (complete with liner) which is specifically designated for the disposal of such waste.

6. This policy also links with;

- Equal opportunities,
- Health and Safety,
- SEND,
- Behaviour,
- First Aid,

This policy will be reviewed and revised as necessary on an annual basis. It is based on good practice and guidance from a wide range of national and local bodies. It reflects the consensus of the whole teaching staff and has been adopted by the Governing Body.

Appendix 1 – Intimate Care Consent Form

Intimate care:

Should it be necessary, I give permission for to receive intimate care (e.g. help with changing, toileting, washing or applying sun cream).

School will ensure that:

- Children are encouraged to be as independent as possible, particularly with washing and cleaning.
- The child will be told what is being done and why, particularly if physical contact is necessary in intimate areas.
- The Teacher/Teaching Assistant informs another member of staff what they are doing, where and why.
- Privacy of the child is always to be considered e.g. being allowed to change out of the view of others.
- Doors will not be locked and, where possible, will be left ajar or open.
- If the child can change independently then the teacher/TA will wait outside the door.
- If the child becomes stressed for any reason, the teacher should ask another member of staff to be present with them or telephone for their parents.
- During the school day (8:30-3:30), intimate care in the Early Years will be recorded via Tapestry. If intimate care is not recorded using tapestry, staff will record and log any incidents and parents will be made aware at the end of the day and asked to sign the log.

Parents will ensure that:

- Children are provided with nappies, disposable bags, wipes, sun cream etc for the sessions their children attend.
- They will work in partnership with nursery in toilet training their child in preparedness for school.

Name of Parent/Carer:

Signed: Date:

Health

My health visitors / school nurse name is:

Telephone number:

I have had all of my immunisations and they are up to date (please tick):

Yes No

