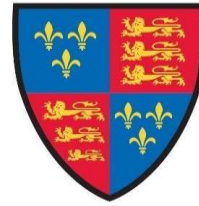




**KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM**

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**KING EDWARD VI  
ACADEMY TRUST  
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## INTIMATE CARE POLICY

<b>Board</b>	Academy Trust Foundation Board
<b>Policy Type</b>	Hybrid Policy
<b>Policy Owner</b>	FLE - Safeguarding Lead
<b>Statutory</b>	No
<b>Publish Online</b>	No – Schools to consider putting on own safeguarding section of the website.
<b>Last Review Date</b>	September 2023
<b>Review Cycle</b>	Annual
<b>Next Review Date</b>	July 2024
<b>Expiry Date</b>	October 2024
<b>Version</b>	2

<b>School</b>	King Edward VI Handsworth School for Girls
<b>School Policy Owner</b>	Designated Safeguarding Lead
<b>LGB Approval Date</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> October 2023

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## **1. Introduction**

For reference, intimate care refers to any care which involves toileting, washing, changing, touching or carrying out an invasive procedure to children's intimate personal areas that most children and young people would be able to do for themselves.

## **2. Aims**

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Intimate care is carried out properly by staff, in line with any agreed plans.
- The dignity, rights and wellbeing of children are safeguarded.
- Pupils with intimate care difficulties are not discriminated against, in line with the Equalities Act 2010.
- Parents/carers are assured that staff are knowledgeable about intimate care and that the needs of their children are taken into account.
- Staff carrying out intimate care work do so within guidelines (i.e. health and safety, manual handling, safeguarding protocols awareness) that protect themselves and the children involved.

## **3. Legislation and statutory guidance**

This policy complies with [statutory safeguarding guidance](#). It also complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

## **4. Role of parent/carer**

### **4.1 Seeking parent/carer permission**

Where there isn't an intimate care plan, parent/carer permission will be sought before performing any intimate care procedure.

If the school is unable to get in touch with a parent/carer and an intimate care procedure urgently needs to be carried out, the procedure will be carried out to ensure the child is comfortable, and the school will inform a parent/carer afterwards.

### **4.2 Creating an intimate care plan**

Where an intimate care plan is required, it will be agreed in discussion between the school, parent/carer, the child (when possible) and any relevant health professionals.

The school will work with parents/carer and take their preferences on board to make the process of intimate care as comfortable as possible, dealing with needs sensitively and appropriately.

Subject to their age and understanding, the preferences of the child will also be considered. If there is doubt about whether the child can make an informed choice, their parent/carer will be consulted.

The intimate care plan will be reviewed twice a year, even if no changes are necessary, and updated regularly, as well as whenever there are changes to a pupil's needs.

See Appendix 1 to see what this should cover.

### **4.3 Sharing information**

The school will share information with parents/carers as needed to ensure a consistent approach. It will expect parents/carers to also share relevant information regarding any intimate matters as needed.

## **5. Role of staff**

## **5.1 Which staff will be responsible**

Any first aiders who may carry out intimate care will have this set out in their job description.

No other staff members will be required to provide intimate care.

All staff at the school who carry out intimate care will have been subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) with a barred list check before appointment, as well as other checks on their employment history.

## **5.2 How staff will be trained**

Staff will receive:

- Training in the specific types of intimate care they undertake
- Regular safeguarding training
- If necessary, manual handling training that enables them to remain safe and for the pupil to have as much participation as is possible

They will be familiar with:

- The control measures set out in risk assessments carried out by the school
- Hygiene and health and safety procedures.

They will also be encouraged to seek further advice as needed.

## **6. Intimate care procedures**

### **6.1 How procedures will happen**

If a child requires intimate care, two trained staff members will be present in order to support any invasive procedure and to mitigate any safeguarding concerns. Both staff members will be first aid trained and, when possible, one staff member will be a senior first aider and/or one staff member will be named by the child as their preferred person.

Procedures will be carried out in the privacy of the medical office.

When carrying out procedures, the school will provide staff with the necessary equipment such as protective gloves, cleaning supplies, changing mats and bins.

For children needing routine intimate care, the school expects a parent/carer to provide, when necessary, a good stock (at least a week's worth in advance) of necessary resources, such as underwear and/or a spare set of clothing.

Any soiled clothing will be contained securely, clearly labelled, and discreetly returned to a parent/carer at the end of the day.

### **6.2 Concerns about safeguarding**

If a member of staff carrying out intimate care has concerns about physical changes in a child's appearance (e.g. marks, bruises, soreness), they will report this using the school's safeguarding procedures.

If a child is hurt accidentally or there is an issue when carrying out the procedure, the staff member will report the incident immediately to a Designated Safeguarding Lead or a Deputy.

If a child makes an allegation against a staff member, the responsibility for intimate care of that child will be given to another staff member as quickly as possible and the allegation will be investigated according to the school's safeguarding procedures.

## **7. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed by Jane Glendenning, Designated Safeguarding Lead, annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the School Governing Body.

### **8. Links with other policies**

This policy links to the following policies and procedures:

- Accessibility plan
- Child protection and safeguarding
- Health and safety
- SEN
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Managing allegations

## Appendix 1: template intimate care plan

Parents/Carers	
Name of child	
Type of intimate care needed	
How often care will be given	
What training staff will be given	
Where care will take place	
What resources and equipment will be used, and who will provide them	
How procedures will differ if taking place on a trip or outing	
Staff member responsible for ensuring care is carried out according to the intimate care plan	
Name of parent or carer	
Relationship to child	
Signature of parent or carer	
Date	
child	
How many members of staff would you like to help?	
Do you mind having a chat when you are being changed or washed?	
Signature of child	
Date	

This plan will be reviewed twice a year.

Next review date:

To be reviewed by:

## Appendix 2: template parent/carer consent form

Permission for school to provide intimate care	
Name of child	
Date of birth	
Name of parent/carer	
Address	
I give permission for the school to provide appropriate intimate care to my child (e.g. changing soiled clothing, washing and toileting)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I will advise the school of anything that may affect my child's personal care (e.g. if medication changes or if my child has an infection)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I understand the procedures that will be carried out and will contact the school immediately if I have any concerns	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>I do not</b> give consent for my child to be given intimate care (e.g. to be washed and changed if they have a toileting accident).</p> <p>Instead, the school will contact me or my emergency contact and I will organise for my child to be given intimate care (e.g. be washed and changed).</p> <p>I understand that if the school cannot reach me or my emergency contact if my child needs urgent intimate care, staff will need to provide this for my child, following the school's intimate care policy, to make them comfortable and remove barriers to learning.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent/carer signature	
Name of parent/carer	
Relationship to child	
Date	