

OAKWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL **'committed to the welfare and safety of its pupils'**

Intimate Care Policy

Statement of intent

We take the health and wellbeing of all pupils very seriously. The school aims to support pupils with physical disabilities and illnesses to enable them to have a full and rich academic life whilst at school.

The governing body recognises its duties and responsibilities in relation to the Equality Act 2010, which states that any pupil with an impairment affecting his/her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities must not be discriminated against.

Pupils will always be treated with care and respect when intimate care is given, and no pupil will be left embarrassed.

Definitions

- 1.1. For the purpose of this policy, intimate care is defined as any care which may involve the following:
 - Washing
 - Touching
 - Changing a child who has soiled themselves
 - Providing oral care
 - Feeding
 - Assisting in toilet issues
- 1.2. Intimate care tasks are associated with bodily functions, body products and personal hygiene that demand direct or indirect contact with, or exposure of, the genitals.
- 1.3. Examples of intimate care include support with dressing and undressing (underwear), changing incontinence pads, nappies or medical bags such as colostomy bags, menstrual hygiene, helping someone use the toilet, or washing intimate parts of the body.
- 1.4. Pupils may be unable to meet their own care needs for a variety of reasons and will require regular support.

2. Health and safety.

- 2.1. Any member of staff that is required to assist a pupil with changing a medical bag will be trained to do so according to their needs.

- 2.2. Staff will wear disposable gloves while assisting a pupil in the toilet or while changing a nappy, incontinence pad or medical bag.
- 2.3. Soiled nappies, incontinence pads and medical bags will be securely wrapped and disposed of appropriately.
- 2.4. Where one pupil requires intimate care/toileting, nappies, incontinence pads and medical bags will be disposed of in an ordinary bin, as per health and safety guidelines.
- 2.5. Where more than one pupil requires intimate care, nappies, incontinence pads and medical bags will be disposed in the Nappy bin.
- 2.6. The changing area or toilet will be left clean.
- 2.7. Hot water and soap are available to wash hands.
- 2.8. Paper towels are available to dry hands.

3. Staff and facilities:

- 3.1. Mobile pupils will be changed while standing up. Some very young children may lay down if needed.
- 3.2. Pupils who are not mobile will be changed on a purpose-built changing bed or changing mat on the floor.
- 3.3. Staff will be supported to adapt their practice in relation to the needs of individual pupils, taking into account developmental changes such as the onset of puberty or menstruation.

4. School responsibilities for children on a care plan:

- 4.1. Arrangements will be made with a multi-agency to discuss the personal care needs of any pupil prior to them attending the school.
- 4.2. In liaison with the pupil and parents/carers, an individual intimate care plan will be created to ensure that reasonable adjustments are made for any pupil with a health condition or disability.
- 4.3. Regular consultations will be arranged with all parents/carers and pupils regarding toilet facilities.
- 4.4. The privacy and dignity of any pupil who requires intimate care will be respected at all times.
- 4.5. A qualified member of staff will change the pupil, or assist them in changing themselves if they become wet, or soil themselves.
- 4.6. Any pupil with wet or soiled clothing will be assisted in cleaning themselves and will be given spare clothing, nappies, pads, etc., as provided by the parents/carers.

4.7. Members of staff will react to accidents in a calm and sympathetic manner.

5. Parental responsibilities

5.1. Parents/carers will change their child, or assist them in going to the toilet, at the latest possible time before coming to school.


5.2. Parents/carers will provide spare nappies, incontinence pads, medical bags, wet wipes and a change of clothing in case of accidents.

6. Equality

6.1. All staff at Oakworth Primary School promote equality and good community relations and avoid discrimination against anyone for reasons of race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origins, gender, disability, religion or belief, sexual orientation, or socio-economic circumstances.

7. Monitoring and review

7.1 This policy will be reviewed every two years or earlier if deemed necessary.



Signed:

Chair of Governors

Dated: 16 November 2017