



**Acacias  
Community  
Primary School**

**Intimate Care Policy**

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Approved by *Governing Body*

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## **Introduction**

Acacias Community 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. No child should be attended to in a way that causes distress, embarrassment or pain.

This policy has been devised in response to the increasing number of children entering the Early Years Foundation Stage who have toileting accidents during the school day but also covers other children within school. It sets out the procedures we will follow in the case of a child accidentally wetting or soiling him/herself and states the roles and responsibilities of both home and school in supporting a child to be independent in their self-care.

## **Aims**

The purpose of this policy is:

- To safeguard the rights and promote the best interests of the children.
- To ensure children are treated with sensitivity and respect, and in such a way that their experience of intimate care is a positive one.
- To safeguard adults required to operate in sensitive situations.
- To raise awareness and provide a clear procedure for intimate care.
- To inform parents/carers how intimate care is administered.
- To ensure parents/carers are consulted in the intimate care of their child.

## **Unicef Rights Respecting Articles**

Acacias is involved in the Unicef Rights Respecting School programme. This Drugs Policy relates to the following articles from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child:

- *Article 3 - The best interests of the children must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.*
- *Article 16 - Every child has the right to privacy. The law should protect the child's private, family and home life, including protecting children from unlawful attacks that harm their reputation.*
- *Article 34 - Governments must protect children from all forms of sexual abuse and exploitation.*

## **Our approach to best practice**

Staff will always encourage a child to be independent in their self-care. Children will be encouraged to use the toilet independently and learn how to manage their own personal hygiene.

If a child requires intimate care he/she will be treated with respect at all times because his/her dignity and wellbeing is of utmost importance. Staff will ensure that there is careful communication with every child who needs help with intimate care. The child will be made aware of each procedure that is carried out and the reason for it.

The following guidelines will be followed in the instance that a child wets or soils themselves:

- The child will be changed by member of staff who is familiar to the child.
- Changing will take place in the large cubicle in the Nursery or Reception toilet area or in a disabled toilet.
- Staff will wear gloves and dispose of any waste in a hygienic way.
- Wet or soiled clothes will be put in a carrier bag and returned to parents at the end of the day.
- Parents will be informed of any toileting accidents when they collect their child from school.
- In the instance of extensive soiling parents/carers may be phoned to clean their child.

Unless there is a medical condition, it is not acceptable that children in the Early Years Foundation Stage persistently wet or soil themselves during the school day. If this situation does arise we support the parent/carer in the development of the child's toilet training and seek advice from external agencies if necessary.