



Weeton St Michael's

CHURCH of ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

INTIMATE CARE POLICY

Written: November 2024

Review Due: September 2025

FROM SMALL BEGINNINGS, GREAT THINGS GROW

Christian Values:

Happiness, Empathy, Achieve, Respect and Trust

School vision:

"From Small Beginnings, Great Things Grow"

*underpinned by The Parable of The Mustard Seed
(Matthew 13:31-32)*



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OF
BLACKBURN

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Introduction

At Weeton St Michael's Primary School, we are committed to ensuring the dignity, safety, and well-being of all our pupils. We recognize that some children may require assistance with intimate care due to age, disability, or medical needs. This policy outlines our procedures to ensure that intimate care is provided in a respectful, safe, and consistent manner.

Definition of Intimate Care

Intimate care refers to tasks associated with personal hygiene, toileting, dressing, feeding, or any other care of a private nature required by a child.

Key Principles

- **Respect and Dignity:** All children must be treated with dignity and respect.
 - **Privacy:** Intimate care should be carried out in a private and appropriate setting.
 - **Consent:** Wherever possible, the child should be consulted and their preferences respected.
 - **Safety:** Safeguarding and the protection of all parties involved is a priority.
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Guidelines for Intimate Care

1. Authorisation and Communication:

- A designated adult may be alone with a child in the disabled toilet to provide intimate care, but they must first inform another adult (e.g., a colleague, line manager, or school administrator) where they are and the nature of their task.
- The adult providing the care must be a staff member trained in safeguarding and the school's intimate care procedures.

2. Maintaining Transparency:

- The door to the disabled toilet must remain closed for privacy, but the adult should remain audible or reachable via a mobile communication device or nearby staff.
- If the child can understand, they should be informed of what is happening and reassured throughout the process.

3. Precautions:

- Staff must always wear disposable gloves and aprons to maintain hygiene.
- A written record of the care provided (e.g., toileting or assistance given) should be logged immediately after the task is completed. This record should include the date, time, staff member involved, and any observations or concerns.
- Another staff member must check on the adult and child after a reasonable period if the task takes longer than expected.
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4. Partnership with Parents:

- Parents will be informed of this policy and asked to provide written consent for staff to assist their child with intimate care if required.
- Any specific instructions or preferences from parents regarding intimate care should be documented in the child's care plan or on the school's internal records.

5. Staff Training:

- All staff involved in intimate care will receive safeguarding training and specific training in intimate care procedures.
- Staff must know how to identify and report any safeguarding concerns related to intimate care.

6. Child's Rights and Preferences:

- Wherever possible, children should be encouraged to perform aspects of their intimate care independently.
- Children must be asked for their consent before care is provided, and their right to refuse should be respected unless not acting could lead to harm.

7. Safeguarding Measures:

- Two adults should ideally be present for intimate care where possible, but the policy allows for one adult to perform care in the disabled toilet provided the above precautions are followed.
- Staff should avoid one-on-one situations in secluded areas unless necessary and must communicate their location at all times.
- Any incidents, accidents, or unusual occurrences must be reported immediately and documented in the school's incident log.

8. Review and Monitoring:

- This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher and the Governing Body to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness.
- Feedback from staff, parents, and pupils (where appropriate) will be taken into account during reviews.

Conclusion

Weeton St Michael's Primary School is committed to ensuring that intimate care is provided safely, respectfully, and in partnership with parents. By adhering to this policy, we aim to promote the welfare of children and staff while maintaining the highest standards of care.

Reviewed and Approved By:

Headteacher: Luke Smith

Chair of Governors: Jed Sullivan

Date: November 2024