



FROEBEL HOUSE SCHOOL INTIMATE CARE/TOILETING POLICY

At Froebel House School we do not discriminate against any child or adult on the grounds of race, disability, gender, age, gender reassignment, pregnancy, maternity, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation. We embrace the individuality of all our community members and comply fully with the Equality Act 2010.

“Intimate care is care which involves contact with parts of the body that we usually consider to be private.” Barnardo’s Carers’ Handbook.

Intimate care is a high-risk activity in terms of abuse and it is particularly important that there are guidelines on Intimate Care, both to protect those being cared for and the staff who care for the children’s needs. We take the view that everyone is safer if expectations are clear and approaches are as consistent as possible.

At Froebel House School we understand that children do have ‘*accidents*’, especially in lower classes, and such ‘*accidents*’ are treated with respect, kindness and dignity. When the children go into the toilet staff do not enter under any circumstances. The children are given clean clothes – wipes if necessary – to clean and change themselves. Wherever possible, staff should provide verbal support and guidance in order for the child to manage their own intimate care.

Sufficient disposable resources should be to hand – disposable gloves; latex powder-free gloves, etc.. and surfaces should be wiped down after each procedure and hands washed thoroughly. Facilities and equipment needs to be left in a safe, clean condition.

If a child is unable to change or clean themselves, parents or carers on the emergency list are called and asked to collect the child. The child will be supervised whilst waiting to be collected and treated with respect with no attention being drawn to the matter in hand.

Guidance relating specifically to pupils with an Intimate Care Plan

1. In order to ensure that intimate care is provided with dignity and respect, school staff should plan carefully liaising with the pupil and family.
2. When drawing up the Intimate Care Plan, the views of the pupil, parents/carers and staff will be taken into account and recorded.
3. Any appropriate equipment necessary for the Intimate Care Procedure will be identified and resourced by the appropriate agency (e.g. Health Agencies).

4. Staff working with pupils requiring intimate care procedures will have enhanced DBS disclosures, and access to training in child protection procedures as well as in moving and handling where appropriate.
5. Staff should not attempt to carry out any procedure for which they have not received training and/or advice. The school should ensure that sufficient staff have the necessary training to cover for staff absence.
6. It is expected that sufficient personal articles e.g. nappies/pads will be provided by the parents/carers.
7. The Intimate Care Plan should be reviewed regularly depending upon the development of the pupil or if there have been any changes in therapeutic or medical needs. It should be reviewed at least annually.
8. Consideration will be given to the pupil's intimate care needs when planning a school trip or residential. The school will identify the pupil's needs and requirements and the facilities available. It will also consider what equipment/resources will need to be transferred or transported. When planning school trips all reasonable steps will be made to include pupils who require intimate care. This will be demonstrated through the risk assessments for the school trip.

Internal Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:-

- Child Protection & Safeguarding
- Special Educational Needs & Disability
- Supporting Children with Medical Needs
- Health & Safety
- Safer Recruitment
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National Guidance

The following national guidance should also be referred to:

- DfE: Keeping Children Safe in Education. Statutory Guidance for schools and colleges – October 2019
- DfE: Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions. Statutory guidance – August 2017

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