



Bedfield and Wetheringsett C of E Primary Schools

Intimate Care Policy

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Date	27 th November 2023
Approved By	FGB 7 th December 2023
Review By Date	6 th December 2025



The Mustard Seed

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, when it is grown, it becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches." Matthew 13:31 – 32

The Mustard Seed

"If you have faith as small as a mustard seed... nothing will be impossible for you." Matthew 17:20-21



In intimate care situations, the child's safety, dignity and privacy are of paramount importance. Children requiring intimate care will be treated respectfully at all times.

'Intimate care' covers any task that involves washing, touching or carrying out a procedure to intimate personal areas and is associated with bodily functions and personal hygiene, including toileting, washing and dressing.

Staff who provide intimate care do so in a professional manner. Staff are aware of safeguarding issues and have relevant training (e.g. health and safety, child protection, manual handling) before providing intimate care. No child should suffer distress or pain as a result of receiving intimate care.

Best practice

When intimate care is given, the member of staff explains fully each task that is carried out and the reasons for it. Staff encourage children to do as much for themselves as they can. Staff should follow the procedures set out in the Nappy Changing Policy. The door to the room where the intimate care is taking place should be kept open and wherever practical, this should be done with another member of staff within view, for example in an adjacent room.

Child Protection

In accordance with the school's Safeguarding Policy, if a member of staff is concerned about any emotional or physical changes to a child, such as an aversion to physical contact, marks, bruises, soreness etc, they should inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead immediately.

Partnership with parents

For children in the school, if there are any issues with toileting, we will discuss this with parents as soon as possible in terms of:

- The nature of the difficulties and possible causes.
- How parents manage the situation at home.
- Preferred methods of intimate care.
- How we are going to develop a consistent approach to intimate care at home and in the school.