



## **Great Barford CE Academy**

### **INTIMATE CARE POLICY**

1. Intimate care is any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out an invasive procedure (such as cleaning up a pupil after they have soiled themselves) to intimate personal areas.
2. The issue of intimate care is a sensitive one and will require staff to be respectful of the child's needs. The child's dignity should always be preserved with a high level of privacy, choice and control. There shall be a high awareness of child protection issues. Staff behaviour must be open to scrutiny and staff must work in partnership with parents/carers to provide continuity of care to children/young people wherever possible.
3. Great Barford Primary Academy 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. Great Barford Primary Academy recognises 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 or pain.
4. The child who requires intimate care is treated with respect at all times; the child's welfare and dignity are of paramount importance.
5. The child will be supported to achieve the highest level of autonomy that is possible. Staff will encourage each child to do as much for him/herself as he/she can. This may mean, for example, giving the child responsibility for washing themselves. Individual intimate care plans will be drawn up for particular children as appropriate to suit the circumstances of the child according to medical advice..
6. Each child's right to privacy will be respected. Careful consideration will be given to each child's situation to determine how many carers might need to be present when a child is toileted. Where possible one child will be catered for by one adult unless there is a sound reason for having more adults present.
7. Wherever possible the same child will not be cared for by the same adult on a regular basis; ideally there will be a rota of carers known to the child who will take turns in providing care.
8. Parents have a role to play when their child is still wearing nappies. The parent should provide nappies, disposal bags, wipes, changing mat etc. and parents should be made aware of this responsibility. Schools are responsible for providing gloves, plastic aprons, a bin and liners to dispose of any waste.



9. Parents and the school have a shared responsibility to work together to support toilet training where this is not as yet established. Staff may need to support a child to wipe their own bottom, ie. explain and model the routine; the general expectation is that they should be encouraging independence and gradually phasing out support; this is to promote self-sufficiency and appropriate hygiene practices as they get older.

*The school will access specific support for a child if they are not progressing with their toilet training via the school nursing team. A care plan will be devised to support the child if, when medical advice is given, it is deemed that intimate support is needed.*

10. Staff should always wear an apron and gloves when dealing with a child who is bleeding or soiled or when changing a soiled nappy. Any soiled waste should be placed in a polythene waste disposal bag. This bag should then be placed in a bin (complete with a liner) which is specifically designated for the disposal of such waste.

12. Staff who administer first aid should ensure wherever possible that another adult or other children are present. The pupil's dignity must always be considered and where contact of a more intimate nature is required (e.g. assisting with toileting or the removal of wet/soiled clothing), another member of staff should be in the vicinity and should be made aware of the task being undertaken.