

Penygaer Primary School

Policy for Intimate Care



Penygaer CP School Intimate Care Policy

Introduction

The child's dignity is paramount in all cases of Intimate care. This principle will guide our practice.

We do not discriminate against children who have not yet achieved full continence. Some young children may still be working towards full continence, or may remain incontinent for a prolonged period of time because they have a specified medical condition or additional need. Others may not yet have achieved this stage in their development.

A child may not need to be changed while attending school on a part time basis, which is up to 3 hours. It is more likely that this will be needed when the child attends full time. However, some of our pupils may need intimate care at any time of the school day and we need to plan for the possibility of intimate care should the need arise.

Facilities

The toilet adjoining the ASD class and intervention class blocks has a toilet with a changing bed.

Communication and Partnership working

Clear communications between the home and school is paramount before any Intimate Care can be provided to pupils by Penygaer CP School staff. The health visitor/school nurse or Health professional will be contacted for advice if needed before the commencement of practice.

Delayed continence may be linked with delays in other aspects of a child's development and will benefit from a planned programme worked out in partnership with the child's parents/carer and health professionals.

We aim to meet with the parents as soon as possible after the child starts in school.

At this meeting, we will discuss:

- The nature of the child's difficulties and possible underlying causes
- How the parent manages the situation at home
- Preference in terms of practical care, e.g. use of water or baby wipes
- Preferred method of toilet training
- How we are going to develop a consistent approach at home and in the school

We will ask parents/carers to sign consent (eg Appendix A) so that we can clearly define responsibilities and the expectations from both perspectives.

Staff Training

The Headteacher/ Leadership Team will ensure all necessary staff (including cover staff in the event of absence) are fully briefed of the pupils' needs and trained in an appropriate manner by the school nurse/health professional to deal with any specific requirements. Speedy arrangements will be made to update/review practices or follow up concerns raised by staff or parents.

Health & Safety

- School will provide appropriate resources as advised/deemed necessary eg disposable aprons, gloves, a changing mat, nappy bags, wipes etc.
- Soiled items will be disposed of as advised.
- Toilets have warm water, liquid soap dispensers and hand driers/paper towels.
- Toilets are cleaned daily by CCC trained Cleaning staff.

Procedures for Intimate Care

For any child who needs to be changed regularly, a personal care plan will be agreed with parents. This plan will include details such as:

- Which staff will change the child
- Where the changing will take place
- What resources will be used and who will supply them
- How the soiled nappy will be disposed of
- What infection control measures are in place
- What the staff member will do if the child is unduly distressed by the experience or if the staff member notices marks or injuries.

Child Protection and Intimate Handling

- The school complies with all CCC recruitment/ CRB requirements and follows guidance for the well-being and support of pupils.
- Parents must understand that changing a child's nappy/ catheterisation will involve intimate handling
- The staff designated would be those with whom the child is comfortable and confident.
- Members of staff of the ASD unit and/or Early years staff would change the child. These members of staff would be named on the care plan. Preferably the same member of staff would change the child.
- The child should **NOT** be left unattended for any period of time. All equipment must be collected prior to intimate care commencing.
- No volunteers or students will be allowed to manage the Intimate Care of a pupil.
- All staff are encouraged to be vigilant for any signs or symptoms of improper practice.
- All staff are made aware of procedures to follow if a complaint is made against a member of staff.

Appendix A
Home/School Agreement for the intimate care of pupils

Name: _____ Class: _____

The parent will:

- Change their child at the latest possible time before being brought to school.
- Provide the nursery with spare nappies, cream, wipes and a change of clothing.
- Agree to the procedures that will be followed when their child is changed – including the use of any cleanser or the application of any cream
- Inform school staff should the child have any marks/rash
- Agree to a 'minimum change' policy i.e. the nursery staff would not undertake to change the child more frequently than if s/he was at home.
- Agree to review arrangements should this be necessary.

School will:

- Support new toilet users to use the toilet independently, for instance, pulling down their underwear, flushing the toilet etc.
- Help children where necessary to wipe and clean themselves and wash their hands.
- Help children to change clothes if soiled or wet during the day.
- Change the child during a single session should the child soil themselves or become uncomfortable or wet
- Agree how often the child should be changed if staying all day
- Monitor the number of times the child is changed in order to identify progress made
- Report if the child is distressed, or if marks/rashes are seen
- Review arrangements should this be necessary

Signature of parent/carer

Signature on behalf of Penygaer Primary School

Date
