



Purston Infant School Foundation Stage Intimate Care Policy

At Purston Infant School all children deserve the right to be safe and be treated with dignity, respect and privacy at all times to enable them to access all aspects of the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

‘Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential. A child’s experiences between in the early years has a major impact on their future life chances. A secure, safe and happy childhood is important in its own right. High quality early learning provides the foundation children need to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up.

(Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage
Department for Education 2017)

Aim

At Purston Infant School we aim to meet the needs of all our children and promote their welfare. We recognise and assist children with intimate care where needed and ensure that the children are treated with courtesy, dignity and respect at all times.

Intimate Care

Intimate care is defined as care involving washing, touching or carrying out a procedure to intimate personal areas which some children may need support in doing because of their young age, physical difficulties or other special needs. Where a child has intimate care needs a designated member of staff takes responsibility to provide the care they need. Needs of the children are addressed on an individual basis.

Due to the age and developmental stages of children in Foundation Stage, we support them with their personal care. This includes reminding children to go to the toilet, flushing of toilets and washing their hands to develop their independence. As outlined in the Foundation Stage curriculum, we are responsible for children’s personal care skills as an essential part of Personal Development, in order to be able to access the rest of the curriculum.

If a child has needed help with meeting intimate care needs this is treated as confidential and shared with parents/carers in person at the end of the school day. This policy sets out clear principles and guidelines on supporting intimate care with specific reference to toileting. It should be considered in line with our Safeguarding Policy, Health and Safety Policies and Administering of Medicines Policy.

This policy supports the safeguarding and welfare requirements of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) 2017 and the Disability Discrimination Act 2005. Purston Infant School will ensure that:

- No child's physical, mental or sensory impairment will have an adverse effect on their ability to take part in day to day activities.
- No child with a named condition that affects development will be discriminated against.
- No child who is delayed in achieving continence will be refused admission.
- No child will be sent home or have to wait for their parent/care due to incontinence.
- Adjustments will be made for any child who has delayed incontinence.

Nappies

On some occasions, children do come to our setting in nappies and staff are experienced in this. We support children sensitively and with dignity in this matter. For children with specific toileting needs there is access to changing facilities in Lower Foundation Stage. We do ask that parents supply nappies and wipes for their children with needs.

Soiling and Accidents

Occasionally children will have toileting accidents and need to be attended to. Parents are asked to provide a change of clothes for their child which are kept in a bag on their coat peg in the cloakroom. School does have spare clothes available in the event that a parent hasn't provided any for their child and parents are asked to return these as soon as possible, washed and dried.

Intimate care for soiling will be given to any child who requires this if a toileting accident occurs. Discussions will take place regarding this in the initial parents meeting when children begin our Lower Foundation Stage. Parents who wish to opt out of this have the opportunity to do so through discussion with the class teacher at the beginning of each school year. The class teacher will always inform parents at the end of the school day regarding any toileting accidents. This will be done in a confidential manner.

When sorting a toileting accident staff should always be aware of the possibility of invading a child's privacy and will respect the child's wishes and feelings. If a child needs to be cleaned staff will make sure that:

- Another member of staff is present during changing
- Protective gloves are worn
- The procedure is discussed in a friendly and reassuring way with the child throughout the process
- The child is encouraged to care for him/herself as far as possible
- Physical contact is kept to the minimum possible to carry out the necessary cleaning
- Privacy is given appropriate to the child's age and the situation

- All spills of vomit, blood or excrement are cleaned and any cloths/wipes used are disposed of in a yellow clinical waste bag
- Nappies are to be placed in an appropriate bag and sealed. They should be disposed of immediately in an appropriate bin.

Reviewed December 2018

A Gascoyne Deputy Head Teacher

L Earley Chair of Governors

18.12.18