



Markethill Primary School

Intimate Care Policy

INTRODUCTION

The Intimate Care Policy has been developed to safeguard children and staff. They apply to everyone involved in the intimate care of children. We recognise that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given. No children should be attended to in a way that causes stress, embarrassment or pain. Intimate care arrangements must be agreed by the school, parents/carers and the child.

DEFINITION

Intimate care is any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out an invasive procedure (such as cleaning up after a child has wet/soiled him/herself), that most children can carry out for themselves, but with

which some are unable to do so due to physical disability, special education needs associated with learning difficulties, medical needs or needs arising from the child's stage of development.

Care may involve help with drinking, eating, dressing, menstrual care and toileting. It may also require the administration of an insulin injection or epipen.

- Every child has the right to feel safe and secure
- Every child has the right to be treated as an individual
- Every child has the right to remain healthy
- Every child has the right to privacy, dignity and a professional approach at all times from all staff.

GUIDELINES FOR GOOD PRACTICE

- All children have the right to be safe and to be treated with dignity and respect.
- Teaching and non-teaching staff will be given a copy of the school intimate care policy.
- Parents/ carers will be asked to sign the school intimate care policy by way of agreement.
- *Those parents who wish not to sign the policy will be asked to come into school to provide intimate care for their own child.*
- Suitable equipment and facilities will be provided to assist with children who need special arrangements.
- Spare clothes are available for children to change into.
- The child will be supported to achieve the highest level of autonomy that is possible given their age and ability. ***No member of staff will clean your child.***
- Staff will encourage the child to do as much for him/herself as they can.

- Children have the right to privacy and as such intimate care should take place in a cubicle or behind a screen.
- Staff will use gloves at all times when dealing with invasive procedures.
- Parental permission must be given before any intimate care procedures are carried out.
- Staff will agree appropriate terminology for private parts of the body with children.
- Intimate care procedures will be recorded in the 'Intimate Care Book' which is located in the principal's office.

Toileting Procedures

- The staff of Markethill PS would encourage all parents to practise with their child dressing and washing procedures to encourage autonomy.
- Staff will discretely accompany the child to the toilet ensuring the child's dignity is protected at all times.
- 2 members of staff will ensure the child has the necessary clean clothing and washing equipment.
- The child will be encouraged at all times to change themselves. However, staff can direct the child through the procedure step by step.
- Parents will be informed of any accidents children may have had during the day and the action taken by staff, either by telephone or in writing.
- Wet or soiled clothes will be double bagged and placed in the child's schoolbag.
- Borrowed clothes should be washed and returned to school promptly.

- Staff in charge of Intimate Care are teaching staff, teaching assistants and Mrs Lowry.

Intimate Care Procedures On A School Trip

- Staff will carry with them spare clothes, wipes and gloves.
- Procedure as above.

I have read and agree with the procedures in Markethill Primary School's Intimate Care Policy.

Name of pupil: _____

Class: _____

Signed: _____

(Parent/Guardian)