

OUGHTRINGTON  
COMMUNITY  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Intimate Care Policy

**Oughtrington Community Primary School**

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Version	Date	Action
1	November 2018	Adopted

This Policy is available on the Learning Platform, on the office network and in the staff room.



## **School Intimate Care Policy**

This policy should be read alongside the

- Child protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Medical Policy
- H&S Policy

### **Introduction:**

Oughtrington Community Primary School (OCPS) takes seriously its responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children and young people in its care. Staff are not obliged to provide intimate care, but may do so on a voluntary basis.

OCPS is committed to ensuring that staff who provide intimate care of children and young people will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times.

We recognise that there is a need for children and young people to be treated with respect when intimate care is given.

No child shall be attended to in any way that causes distress, embarrassment or pain.

Staff will work in close partnership with parents and carers to share information and provide community care.

### **Definition:**

Intimate care is defined as any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out a sensitive procedure that most children and young people try to carry out for themselves, but which some are unable to do without support.

Disabled pupils may be unable to meet their own care needs for a variety of reasons and will require regular support.

The Governing Body recognises its duties and responsibilities in relation to the Equality Act 2010 which requires that any child with an impairment that affects his/her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities must not be discriminated against.

### **Our approach to best practice:**

- All children at OCPS are encouraged to develop appropriate self-care skills. This includes toileting, changing for PE and personal hygiene.
- The management of all children with intimate care needs dealt with carefully dealt with.
- Staff who provide intimate care are fully aware of best practice in this area.
- Where specialist equipment and facilities above that currently available in the school are required, every effort will be made to provide appropriate facilities

in a timely fashion, following assessment by a Physiotherapist and/or Occupational Therapist.

- There is careful communication with any pupil who requires intimate care in line with their preferred means of communication to discuss needs and preferences at an age appropriate level.
- Staff will be supported to adapt their practice in relation to the needs of individual children taking into account developmental changes such as the onset of puberty and menstruation.
- Pupils will be supported to achieve the highest level of independence possible, according to their individual condition and abilities.
- Individual care plans will be draw up for any pupil requiring regular intimate care at an appropriate age.
- Careful consideration will be given to individual situations to determine how many adults should be present during intimate care procedures. Where possible, one pupil will be cared for with at least one other adult close by. This is for safeguarding reasons.
- Intimate care arrangements will be discussed with parents/carers and documented within school.
- Where a care plan is not in place and a child has needed help with intimate care (in the case of a toilet 'accident') then parents/carers will be informed the same day. This information should be treated as confidential and communicated in person, via telephone or by sealed letter (not via the home school diary).
- The needs and wishes of children and parents will be taken into account wherever possible, within the constraints of staffing and equal opportunities legislation.
- If intimate care is needed on a regular basis, parents may be asked to assist with caring for the child and an intimate care plan may be written.

This policy will be reviewed every two years.