



Intimate Care Policy

Person Responsible	Donna McInnes
First Written	September 2025

Date For Review	Reviewed	Signature
September 2026	Abbie Dellar	<i>A.Dellar</i>
September 2027		
September 2028		
September 2029		

All policies are renewed annually. If no change then just signed. If an amendment or full change is required, this is recorded.

Our Vision

Our school family is a strong, vibrant Christian community with a mission to inspire love for God, for each other and for learning. Once rooted in love, we flourish: living fruitfully, aspiring to grow in wisdom and virtue, and branching out to share God's love in St Barnabas and beyond.

We believe every child is created in God's image – precious and unique. Within God's love, we support and encourage one another to grow and flourish.

In keeping with our values we are committed to ensuring that children who require intimate care are treated with dignity, compassion and respect.

Aims

- To safeguard the rights, dignity and wellbeing of children who require intimate care.
 - To ensure staff follow clear, safe and consistent procedures.
 - To build partnerships with parents so children's needs are met sensitively and appropriately.
 - To protect staff by ensuring good practice and accountability.
 - To promote independence wherever possible.
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Definition of Intimate Care

Intimate care is any care which involves direct or indirect contact with a child's body that is private, personal or sensitive. This may include:

- Supporting with toileting and continence.
- Changing nappies, pull-ups or soiled clothing.
- Providing support with personal hygiene.
- Assisting with medical or physical care, such as catheterisation or stoma care (where trained and agreed).

For children in our Nursery (from age 2) and Reception, intimate care is a regular and natural part of daily routines. This includes nappy changing, toilet training and support with personal hygiene. For older pupils, intimate care is usually occasional, linked to accidents, illness or medical needs.

Principles of Good Practice

- Children's welfare and dignity come first.
 - Children will be encouraged to be as independent as possible.
 - Staff will be sensitive to the child's age, gender, culture and preferences.
 - Intimate care will be planned and agreed with families wherever possible.
 - Staff will use the language of our Belonging Charter: Safe, Ready, Respectful.
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Safeguarding

- Only members of staff with enhanced DBS clearance will provide intimate care.
 - Wherever possible, care will be provided by staff familiar to the child.
 - Adults will inform another member of staff before providing intimate care and will record the support given.
 - Doors will remain closed but not locked during intimate care.
 - If a child becomes distressed, safeguarding procedures will be followed.
 - Any unusual marks, bruises or injuries noticed during intimate care will be reported immediately in line with the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.
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Working with Families

- Parents of nursery and reception children will be asked to provide nappies, wipes and spare clothing.
 - Intimate care arrangements will be discussed with families on entry, and individual care plans created if needed.
 - For older children requiring ongoing intimate care, parents will be fully involved in drawing up care plans.
 - Parents will be informed when intimate care has been provided, either verbally, through a home–school communication book, or via agreed reporting systems.
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Roles and Responsibilities

- **Headteacher:** ensures the policy is implemented, monitored and reviewed.
 - **SENDCO (Special Educational Needs Coordinator):** coordinates intimate care plans where linked to SEND.
 - **Staff:** follow this policy, report any concerns, maintain professionalism at all times.
 - **Parents:** provide resources, information and work in partnership with school.
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Training

- All Early Years staff are trained in safe nappy changing, toileting routines, infection control and safeguarding.
 - Staff providing intimate care for older children receive training tailored to the child's needs (e.g. moving and handling, medical procedures).
 - Refresher training is provided as required.
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Record Keeping

- Intimate care that is regular or planned will be recorded in the child's individual care plan.
 - Ad-hoc incidents (e.g. soiled clothing changed) will be noted and, where appropriate, shared with parents.
 - All care plans will be reviewed at least annually or sooner if needs change.
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Monitoring and Review

- The policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if guidance changes.
 - Governors will monitor its implementation as part of safeguarding oversight.
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Linked Policies

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
 - SEND Policy and Information Report
 - Belonging Policy
 - Accessibility Plan
 - Health and Safety Policy
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Our Commitment

At St Barnabas CEVC Primary School, intimate care is carried out with dignity, respect and compassion. We are committed to ensuring that all children, from nursery through to Year 6, are safe, cared for and supported to flourish.

Through our values, and our charter to be **Safe, Ready and Respectful**, we ensure that every child belongs, is valued, and is enabled to grow in confidence and independence.