



## **Horbury St Peters and Clifton CE (VC) Primary School Foundation Stage Intimate Care Policy**

All children at Horbury St Peters and Clifton CE Primary School have the right to be safe and be treated with dignity, respect and privacy at all times so as to enable them to access all aspects of the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

“Every child deserves the best possible start in life and support to fulfil their potential. A child’s experience 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 and it provides the foundation for children to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up.”

- “Early Years Foundation Stage”

Department for Children, Schools and Families 2012

### **Aim**

At Horbury St Peters and Clifton C of E Primary 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 their care. We address issues on an individual basis.

Due to the age and developmental stages of the children in the Foundation Stage unit, we support them with their personal care: reminding the children to go to the toilet, flushing of toilets, hygiene etc 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 (had an accident). This is treated as confidential and shared with the parents in person at the end of the 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) 2012 and the Disability Discrimination Act 2005: Horbury St Peter's and Clifton C of E (VC) Primary 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 personal 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 parents/carer 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 the Lower Foundation Stage classroom or the shower room in school. 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. Spare clothes are taken into the toilet facilities prior to changing. Spare clothing is available and parents are asked to return this as soon as possible, washed and dried.

Intimate care for soiling should only be given to a child after the parents have given permission for staff to clean and change the child. Parents who have children in the Foundation Stage may sign a permission form so that the Early Years staff can clean and change their child in the event of the child soiling themselves. If a parent does not give consent, the school will contact the parents or other emergency contact giving specific details about the necessity for cleaning the child. If the parents/carers or emergency contact is able to come within a few minutes, the child is comforted and kept away from the other children to preserve dignity until the parent arrives. Children are not left on their own whilst waiting for a parent to arrive, an adult will stay with them, giving comfort and reassurance. The child will be dressed at all times and never left partially clothed. If a parent/carer or emergency contact cannot attend, the school seeks to gain verbal consent from parents/carers for staff to clean and change the child. This permission will be sought on each occasion that the child soils him or herself. If the parents and emergency contacts cannot be contacted the Head Teacher will be consulted. If put in an impossible situation where the child is at risk,

staff will act appropriately and may need to come into some level of physical contact in order to aid the child.

When touching a child, 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 should be 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 yellow bags
- Nappies are to be placed in an appropriate bag and sealed. These should be immediately taken to an appropriate bin and disposed of.

Updated September 2016