



INTIMATE CARE POLICY



Document Control:

This document has been approved for operation within:	Apex Collaborative Trust		
Status	Statutory		
Owner	Headteacher		
Date effective from	1 st Sept 25	Date of next review	1 st Oct 26
Review period	Annual	Version	1

Contents

Statement of intent

Legal framework

School Vision and Ethos

Our Mission and Purpose

Our Aims

Values and behaviours

Definitions

Health and safety

Staff and facilities

School responsibilities

Parental responsibilities

Safeguarding

Swimming

Offsite visits

Toilet training

Record Keeping

Monitoring and review

Appendices:

Toilet Management Plan

School Vision and Ethos

From tiny seeds, mighty trees will grow

Blacko Primary School strives to provide a vibrant, nurturing and aspiring environment where individually our children can thrive both academically and personally. An educational family whereby children's imaginations are ignited and opportunities stretch, develop and inspire a life-long thirst for learning.

'Like branches on a tree, we all grow in different directions yet our roots remain the same'

Our Mission and Purpose

Our mission statement encapsulates our approach and what we prioritise daily:

Creating opportunity. Inspiring excellence. Shaping tomorrow.

We want to provide every child in our care with the best possible start in life and motivate them to fulfil their individual potential and make a full contribution to their communities and to society.

Our Aims

Building on our mission, we have an ambitious vision for our young people and for the Trust:

Through a child-centred approach and exceptional educational experiences we will inspire excellence from all, develop independence, build confidence and ensure readiness for tomorrow.

We believe every child can achieve and we continually encourage high aspirations amongst pupils and staff. To this end, leaders across the Trust adopt an evidence-informed approach to developing all aspects of school provision and are committed to high quality professional development of staff, so that we have an exceptional curriculum and pedagogy in all our schools. High quality pastoral care and support aligned with diagnostic assessment of needs and targeted interventions, help to ensure appropriate provision for every individual.

Values and behaviours

Three core values underpin all trust decisions and policies and are at the heart of every aspect of school life:

Ambition - We are determined to achieve and believe everyone can succeed

Respect - We are considerate of everyone and our environment

Collaboration - We are a community who believe we achieve more by working together

Three associated behaviours follow from each value. These are fundamental to building strong learning communities and creating the best possible environment for all members of those communities to flourish.

Ambition	We are determined to achieve and believe everyone can succeed	Try our best and take pride in what we do
		Be curious and eager to learn
		Persevere and try to bounce back from setbacks
Respect	We are considerate of everyone and our environment	Be polite and use good manners
		Show consideration for the beliefs, rights and feelings of others
		Take responsibility for our own choices
Collaboration	We are a community who believe we achieve more by working together	Actively play our part
		Listen to other people's views
		Support each other to solve problems

Statement of intent

Blacko Primary School takes the health and wellbeing of its pupils very seriously. As described in the Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy, the school aims to support pupils with physical disabilities and illnesses to enable them to have a full and rich academic life whilst at school.

The governing board recognises its duties and responsibilities in relation to the Equality Act 2010, which states that any pupil with an impairment affecting their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities must not be discriminated against.

Pupils will always be treated with care, sensitivity and respect when intimate care is given, and no pupil will be left feeling embarrassed or as if they have created a problem.

Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Children and Families Act 2014
- Education Act 2011
- Health Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- DfE (Most Recent) 'Keeping children safe in education'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Health and Safety Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Whistleblowing Policy

Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, intimate care is defined as any care which may involve the following:

- Washing
- Touching
- Carrying out an invasive procedure
- Changing a child who has soiled themselves
- Providing oral care
- Feeding
- Assisting in toilet issues
- Providing comfort to an upset or distressed pupil

Intimate care tasks are associated with bodily functions, body products and personal hygiene that demand direct or indirect contact with, or exposure of, the genitals.

Examples of intimate care include support with dressing and undressing (underwear), changing incontinence pads, nappies or medical bags such as colostomy bags, menstrual hygiene, helping someone use the toilet, or washing intimate parts of the body.

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

The provision of personal care will always be deemed to be regulated activity regardless of frequency and whether they are supervised or not.

Health and safety

The Health and Safety Policy lays out specific requirements for cleaning and hygiene, including how to deal with spillages, vomit and other bodily fluids.

Any member of staff that is required to assist a pupil with changing a medical bag will be trained to do so and will carry out the procedure in accordance with the Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy.

Staff will have access to disposable aprons and gloves to wear while assisting a pupil in the toilet or while changing a nappy, incontinence pad or medical bag.

Soiled nappies, incontinence pads and medical bags will be securely wrapped and disposed of appropriately in the yellow bin outside the girl's toilet.

Where any number of pupils require intimate care or toileting support, nappies, incontinence pads and nappy bags will be disposed of in the yellow bin located outside the pupil toilets, as per health and safety guidelines.

The changing area or toilet will be left clean. Hot water and soap will be available to wash hands. Paper towels will be available to dry hands in the staff toilets or upon request.

Staff and facilities

Staff members who provide intimate care will be suitably trained, where required, and will be made aware of what is considered good practice.

Suitable equipment and facilities will be provided to assist pupils who need special arrangements following assessment from a physiotherapist or occupational therapist. This may include the following:

- Changing mat, where needed
- Cupboard
- Adapted toilet seat or commode seat, where needed
- Disposable gloves/aprons, supplies located in the staffroom
- Nappies, pads and medical bags, provided by parents, where needed
- Tissue rolls (for changing mat/cleansing)
- Supply of hot water, located in the boiler room
- Soap, located in all toilets
- Barrier creams, provided by parents, where needed
- Antiseptic cleanser for staff and hand washing facilities, located in the main office
- Antiseptic cleanser for the changing bed/mat, located in the main office
- Nappy sack waste bag, located outside the pupil toilets
- Spillage kit

Mobile pupils will be changed while standing up. Pupils who are not mobile will be changed on a changing mat on the floor.

Staff will be supported to adapt their practice in relation to the needs of individual pupils, taking into account developmental changes such as the onset of puberty or menstruation.

School responsibilities

Arrangements will be made with a multi-agency to discuss the personal care needs of any pupil prior to them attending the school.

Where possible, pupils who require intimate care will be involved in planning for their own healthcare needs wherever possible, with input from parents welcomed.

In liaison with the pupil and parents, an individual intimate care plan will be created to ensure that reasonable adjustments are made for any pupil with a health condition or disability.

Regular consultations will be arranged with all parents and pupils regarding toilet facilities.

The privacy and dignity of any pupil who requires intimate care will be respected at all times. A qualified member of staff will change the pupil, or assist them in changing themselves if they become wet, or soil themselves. Any pupil with wet or soiled clothing will be assisted in cleaning themselves and will be given spare clothing, nappies, pads, etc., as provided by the parents.

Members of staff will react to accidents in a calm and sympathetic manner. Accurate records of times, staff, and any other details of incidents of intimate care will be kept in a Record of Intimate Care Intervention, and they will be stored in the nurse's office.

Arrangements will be made for how often the pupil should be routinely changed if the pupil is in school for a full day, and the pupil will be changed by a designated member of staff. A minimum number of changes will be agreed.

The family's cultural practices will always be taken into account for cases of intimate care. Where possible, only same-sex intimate care will be carried out.

Parents will be contacted if the pupil refuses to be changed, or becomes distressed during the process.

Excellent standards of hygiene will be maintained at all times when carrying out intimate care.

Parental responsibilities

Parents will change their child, or assist them in going to the toilet, at the latest possible time before coming to school.

Parents will provide spare nappies, barrier cream, incontinence pads, medical bags, wet wipes and a change of clothing in case of accidents.

Parents will inform the school should their child have any marks or rashes.

Parents will come to an agreement with staff in determining how often their child will need to be changed, and who will do the changing.

Safeguarding

Staff members working directly with children will receive safeguarding training as part of their mandatory induction, in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

Intimate care is a regulated activity; therefore, only members of staff who have an enhanced DBS certificate with a barred list check are permitted to undertake intimate care duties.

Wherever possible, staff involved in intimate care will not be involved in the delivery of sex education to the pupils in their care as an extra safeguard to both staff and pupils involved.

Individual intimate care plans will be drawn up for pupils as appropriate to suit the circumstances of the pupil.

Each pupil's right to privacy will be respected. Careful consideration will be given to each pupil's situation to determine how many carers will need to be present when the pupil requires intimate care.

If any member of staff has concerns about physical changes to a pupil's presentation, such as marks or bruises, they will report the concerns to the DSL immediately and update on CPOMs.

Special consideration will be taken to ensure that bullying and teasing does not occur.

Swimming

Pupils in KS2 participate in swimming lessons at St Peter's Centre Swimming Baths, Burnley. During these lessons, pupils are entitled to privacy when changing; however, some pupils will need to be supervised during changing.

Parental consent will be obtained before assisting any pupils in changing clothing before and after swimming lessons.

Details of any additional arrangements will be recorded in the pupil's individual intimate care plan.

Offsite visits

Before offsite visits, including residential trips, the pupil's individual intimate plan will be amended to include procedures for intimate care whilst off the school premises.

Staff will apply all the procedures described in this policy during residential and off-site visits.

Meetings with pupils away from the school premises, where a chaperone is not present, will not be permitted, unless approval has been obtained by the headteacher.

Consent from a parent will be obtained and recorded prior to any offsite visit.

Toilet training

Members of staff providing care will inform another member of staff prior to taking a pupil to be changed or to use the toilet.

Where potties are used, they will be emptied immediately and cleaned with an anti-bacterial spray. The potty or toilet is checked to assess whether it is clean before use and toilet paper is well stocked.

Gloves and aprons will be available to be worn before each change and the area should be prepared to ensure it is clean and suitable for use. Gloves must be worn at all times when changing nappies, and during any instances where the member of staff could come into contact with bodily fluids.

All pupils will be accompanied to the toilet and will be appropriately supervised and supported during the toilet training stage. Staff will be sensitive and sympathetic when changing pupils and will not make negative facial expressions or negative comments. Pupils' efforts will be reinforced by praise where appropriate.

Staff are required to ensure that soiled/wet nappies are changed as soon as possible. Where pupils are left in soiled nappies and/or clothes, this will be dealt with in line with the school's Disciplinary Policy and Procedure.

Pupils will be encouraged to wash their hands with soap and warm water, with assistance provided where necessary.

If a pupil has a toileting accident, they will be offered assistance to change or be changed by a member of staff regardless of their age.

To build independence, pupils will be encouraged to replace their own clothes and flush the toilet, if they are capable of doing so.

Parents are consulted on the approach to toilet training their pupil to ensure there is consistency with the approach at home. Pupils' progress is discussed at handover with parents. If any pupil is struggling with toilet training techniques or has any issues, e.g. a rash, this will be discussed with the headteacher and the pupil's parents.

Record Keeping

Staff will record incidents where intimate care has been required on the child's Bromcom account under 'First Aid' and select 'Toileting Incident' as the event type.

Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed every two years by the headteacher and the DSL.

All changes are communicated to relevant stakeholders.

The scheduled review date for this policy is September 2026.

Toilet Management Plan

Pupil's name:	Class/year group:
Name of personal assistant:	
Date:	Review date:
Area of need	
Equipment required	
Locations of suitable toilet facilities	
Support required	Frequency of support

Working towards independence

Pupil will try to	Personal assistant will	Parents will	Target achieved date

Signed _____ Parent

Signed _____ Personal assistant

Signed _____ Second member of staff

Signed _____ Pupil (where appropriate)