



Attleborough Junior School

Intimate Care Statement

Date **March 2020**

Review: **March 2024**

The purpose of this statement is to provide guidance as to the intimate care of children arising from such issues as incontinence, 'toilet accidents' and other incidents that may require a child to remove their clothes.

- i) Children should be encouraged to express choice and have a positive image of his / her body.
- ii) Children should have the right to feel safe and secure.
- iii) Children should be respected and valued as individuals.
- iv) Children have the right to information and support to enable them to make appropriate choices.
- v) Children have the right to complain and have their complaint dealt with.
- vi) Risks for both child and any adults in attendance at any incidents involving intimate care are minimised.

Number of Adults in Attendance

This ideally should be **two** and allows virtual support in case child protection allegations are made. If the child is female then female members of staff should attend; if the child is male then at least one member of staff should be male. At least one person should be on the school staff. It is not appropriate for a helper or volunteer to provide the only care for the child. If the child is very distressed then parents may have to be called. In some circumstances staff availability might preclude the attendance of two.

In such circumstances the nature and knowledge of the child must be used to help assess the risk and another adult should be informed about what is happening.

Location

The disabled toilet, near the entrance to the school, provides a private changing space. This allows privacy but also allows accessibility to adults if they are needed. Support and reassurance after the incident should be given in a different place either at the end of the corridor leading to the adult toilets or in the Headteacher's office.

Caring

The child should be spoken to by name and given explanations of what is happening but given as much privacy as possible. The child should be encouraged to care for him / herself as far as possible, using the spare clothing available in the cupboard in the female adult toilets. If the child cannot wash themselves then the child should be washed whilst still wearing underwear.

Hygiene

Disposable flannels should be used with gloves and aprons readily accessible. Used items should be disposed of appropriately and the child should be told to place soiled clothing in a carrier bag. Any soiled surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected as soon as possible.

Recording

All incidents involving intimate care must be recorded straight away, including the date and time, the names of child and adults in attendance, the nature of the incident, the action taken and any concerns. The parent / carer must be informed as soon as possible.

Regular Occurrences

If it becomes evident that the child has an on-going problem, a care plan should be completed which involves the parent / carer as well as appropriate health professionals.

Confidentiality

The dignity of the child must be respected and therefore as much as possible should be kept confidential between child, school and parent / carer.

Parent / Carers

All parent / carers should be made aware of the way the school will deal with these issues.

Support of Staff

It is important that all staff are aware of the school's policy on intimate care issues and should have the opportunity to raise their own concerns and issues.