



Driffield School Intimate Care Policy

Driffield School is committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of young people will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times.

This school takes seriously its responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children and young people in its care.

Aims:

To ensure staff recognise and appreciate the need for young people to be treated with respect when intimate care is given.

To ensure that no child shall be attended to in a way that causes distress, embarrassment or pain.

To enable staff will work in close partnership with parents and carers to share information and provide continuity of care.

Definition:

Intimate care is defined as any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out an invasive procedure that most children and young people carry out for themselves, but which some are unable to do. Disabled pupils may be unable to meet their own care needs for a variety of reasons and will require regular support.

Personal care tasks include help with feeding, prompting to go to the toilet, washing non-intimate body parts or support with dressing and undressing.

Other Relevant Policies:

Other policies that should be considered in conjunction with this policy include:

- Physical Interventions/Restraint
- Safe & Appropriate Working Practice
- Special Educational Needs/Disability Equality
- Educational Visits
- First aid and the administration of medicines

Intimate Care Procedures:

- The management of all children with intimate care needs will be carefully considered and an individual Care Plan will be produced in conjunction with appropriate agencies. This may be as part of another process, e.g. Annual Review of Statement of Educational Needs.
- Staff who provide intimate care are trained to do so (including Child Protection, and Moving and Handling where appropriate) and are fully aware of best practice.
- 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.

- 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
- Intimate care arrangements will be discussed with parents/carers on a regular basis and recorded on the care plan
- The needs and wishes of children and parents will be taken into account wherever possible, within the constraints of staffing and equal opportunities legislation

Child Protection:

The Governors and staff of Driffield School recognise that disabled children are particularly vulnerable to all forms of abuse.

Child Protection procedures will be adhered to at all times.

If a member of staff has any concerns about physical changes in a child's presentation (unexplained marks, bruises or soreness for example) s/he will immediately report concerns to the Child Protection Coordinator.

If a child becomes distressed or unhappy about being cared for by a particular member of staff, the matter will be investigated at an appropriate level and outcomes recorded.

Parents/carers will be contacted at the earliest opportunity as part of the process of reaching a resolution. Further advice will be taken from partner agencies.

If a child makes an allegation about a member of staff this will be investigated in accordance with Safeguarding procedures.

Personnel:

AHT Inclusion (Child Protection Coordinator): Mrs D Dalton

SEN Manager: Mrs. T. Potter

Health Advisor: Mrs. F. Green

School Nurse: Mrs. B Graham