

**Intimate Care Policy**

***Updated August 2022 By Mrs I Finnegan***

Intimate Care Policy and Guidelines Regarding Children

**Definition:**  Intimate care may be defined as any activity required to meet the personal care needs of each individual child. Parents have a responsibility to advise staff of the intimate care needs of their child, and staff have a responsibility to work in partnership with children and parents.

Intimate care can include:

Dressing/undressing, assisting with toileting and in some cases administering medication inhalers.

Underlying principles:

* Every child has the right to be safe
* Every child has the right to personal privacy
* Every child has the right to be clean and comfortable
* Every child has the right to be treated with dignity and respect
* Maintain safe staff/child ratios at all times
* The Head of Nursery and Designated teacher for child protection must ensure that all staff are familiar with, and understand the Intimate Care Policy and Guidelines

**Staff guidance regarding Intimate Care**

Children will be encouraged to act as independently as possible when:

* at the toilet
* changing clothing
* cleaning themselves after toileting

Should a child require to be changed by an adult the parents/guardians should be contacted to bring the child home to change as there is no suitable area for adults within the school to perform such a task- **persons outside the school community should not enter the children's toilets for the safety and privacy of other children.**

**If a child can change their clothes independently, without supervision, the parents/guardians should inform the school in writing stating this clearly.**

Parents will provide a change of clothes and keep these on their child’s peg in cases of a toileting accident and the child having to change themselves.

Under exceptional/medical circumstances parents and staff will work together to create an intimate care plan. As discussed at the parent induction day, it is expected that all children will be toilet trained when attending nursery, should a series of toilet accidents happen within a short period of time the school will work with parents to create a plan which may include the child staying at home for a period to readdress toilet training.

This policy aims to protect the dignity, safety and hygiene of all in our nursery community.