

## Intimate Care

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### Policy Statement

All children at Banstead Prep 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 Banstead Prep school.

This policy sets out clear principles and guidelines on supporting intimate care. Throughout this policy we have paid due regard to and complied with the following statutory regulations:

- KCSIE Sept 2021
- Working Together To Safeguard Children 2018
- What To Do If You Are Worried A Child Is Being Abused 2015
- Special Educational Needs and the Disability Code of Practice 2015
- The Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales 2015 including the use of social media for on-line radicalisation April 2021
- Fundamental British Values as stated in the Prevent Strategy 2015
- The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014
- Behaviour and Discipline in Schools September 2020
- The Children and Families Act 2014
- The Children's Act 2021
- The Education Act 2002

This policy supports the safeguarding and welfare requirements of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) 2021 and the Equality Act 2010. Banstead Prep 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.

- Adjustments will be made for any child who has delayed incontinence.

This policy applies to all members of our school community, including those in our EYFS setting. Banstead Prep School is fully committed to ensuring that the application of this policy is non-discriminatory in line with the UK Equality Act (2010). Further details are available in the school's Equal Opportunity Policy document. Banstead Prep School seeks to implement this policy through adherence to the procedures set out in the rest of this document.

### **Principles**

The Governing Body will act in accordance with Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 and 'Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education' (DfES 2011) to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at this school.

This school takes seriously its responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children and young people in its care. Meeting a pupil's intimate care needs is one aspect of safeguarding.

This intimate care policy should be read in conjunction with the following:

- The Banstead Prep School Safeguarding and Child Protection policy
- Health and safety policy and procedures
- First Aid policy
- Special Educational Needs policy
- Staff guidance on safe working practice

Banstead Prep School is committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of children will undertake their duties in a professional manner, at all times. It is acknowledged that these adults are in a position of great trust.

Banstead Prep School recognises that there is a need to treat all children, whatever their age, gender, disability, religion or ethnicity, with respect when intimate care is given. The child's welfare and dignity is of paramount importance. No child should be attended to in a way that causes distress or pain.

Staff will work in close partnership with parent/carers to share information and provide continuity of care.

### **Definition**

Intimate care can be defined as any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out a procedure to intimate personal areas which most people usually carry out themselves but some children are unable to do because of their young age, physical difficulties or other special needs. Examples include care associated with continence, as well as more ordinary tasks such as help with washing, toileting or dressing.

It also includes supervision of children involved in intimate self-care.

**Partnership with Parents/Carers** – Staff at Banstead Prep School work in partnership with parents/carers to provide care appropriate to the needs of the individual child.

Parents/Carers are asked to supply the following:

- Spare nappies
- Spare clothes
- Spare underwear

### **Best Practice**

Staff who provide intimate care at Banstead Prep School are fully aware of best practice regarding infection control, including the need to wear disposable gloves and aprons where appropriate.

Staff will be supported to adapt their practice in relation to the needs of individual children.

There is careful communication with each child who needs help with intimate care in line with their preferred means of communication (verbal, symbolic, etc.) to discuss their needs and preferences. Where the child is of an appropriate age and level of understanding, permission should be sought before starting an intimate procedure.

All children will be supported to achieve the highest level of autonomy that is possible given their age and abilities. Staff will encourage each child to do as much for him/herself as possible.

Parents/carers will be informed the same day if their child has needed help with meeting intimate care needs (e.g. has had an 'accident' and soiled him/herself). It is recommended practice that information on intimate care should be treated as confidential and communicated in person, by telephone or by sealed letter, not through the home/school diary. An intimate care record sheet should be used for this. (Appendix 1)

Every child's right to privacy will be respected. Careful consideration will be given to each child's situation to determine how many carers might need to be present when a child needs help with intimate care. Adults who assist children one-to-one should be employees of the school and be DBS checked at the appropriate level.

It is not always practical for two members of staff to assist with an intimate procedure. It is advisable, however, for a member of staff to inform another adult when they are going to assist a child with intimate care.

Wherever possible, staff should care for a child of the same gender. However, in some circumstances this principle may need to be waived; for example, female staff supporting boys in an EYFS setting. Due regard should be paid to safe working practice both to protect children and to protect staff from allegations of abuse.

No member of staff will be allocated to provide intimate care as a general rule.

The religious views and cultural values of families should be considered, particularly as they might affect certain practices or determine the gender of the carer.

All staff should be aware of the school's confidentiality policy. Sensitive information will be shared only with those who need to know.

Staff will be trained in best practice by the Head of EYFS.

### **Nappy Changing**

No child is excluded from participating in the Nursery at the Banstead Prep school who may, for any reason, not yet be toilet trained and who may still be wearing nappies or equivalent. We work with parents towards toilet training unless there are medical or other developmental reasons why this may not be appropriate at the time.

We see toilet training as a self-care skill that children can learn with the full support and non-judgmental concern of adults. All children are treated with dignity, care, and compassion during nappy changing/toileting. Staff will ensure this time is relaxed; they do not make negative comments about nappy/potty/toilet contents. At Banstead Prep School we aim to provide the opportunity for all children to use the toilet independently and to help with children who require it. Where children are in pull-ups, we will remind them at frequent intervals to use the toilet. If a child is in nappies, these will be changed as necessary.

### **Procedures for children that are toileting or being trained to use the toilet**

- At Banstead Prep School we will maintain each child's privacy.
- All staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when toileting children.
- During toileting staff will interact with the child, and if upset will reassure and comfort them. They will praise them verbally throughout the experience.
- Staff will wear protective gloves and apron when supporting children during toileting.
- These will be disposed of after each use.
- Children will be shown the toilet areas before they need to use them, to help promote confidence and familiarity in a new environment.
- At Banstead Prep School staff will remind children to use the toilet regularly.
- On occasions a potty will be used for children that find it difficult to use the toilet or those who feel more confident using a potty.
- All children will be encouraged to adopt good personal hygiene by washing their hands properly using soap provided or on occasion special soap will be provided by parents if their child has sensitive skin. Banstead Prep School will provide visual reminders to show good hand washing practice.
- Staff will wash their hands with hot, soapy water and dry on disposable towels immediately after completing task.

- Activities and routines will also include reminders about the need for good personal hygiene.
- Only staff members with DBS Enhanced Disclosure clearance will undertake toileting duties.
- Parents are requested to send a bag containing a clean change of clothes for their child in case of accidents. These clothes will only be used for that child. If these have not been provided, we will use the Banstead Prep School spare clothes.
- All intimate care will be recorded on our Intimate care record form. (Appendix 2)

### **Procedures for nappy changing**

- At Banstead Prep School we will maintain each child's privacy.
- During nappy changing staff will interact with the child, and if upset will reassure and comfort them. They will praise them verbally throughout the nappy changing experience.
- All staff are familiar with the hygiene procedures and carry these out when changing nappies.
- Staff will wear protective gloves and apron when changing nappies/pull ups. These will be disposed of after each use.
- Nappy changing will take place throughout the session at timed intervals, also as and when required. Children will also be checked periodically and changed as needed.
- A member of staff with whom the child is familiar/comfortable with will undertake this task.
- Staff are gentle when changing; they avoid pulling faces and making negative comment about 'nappy contents'.
- Staff ensure that nappy changing is relaxed and a time to promote independence in young children.
- All children are changed in the children's toilet where the nappy changing station is located.
- The changing mat is wiped down with antibacterial wipes/spray after each nappy change.
- Staff will wash their hands with hot, soapy water and dry on disposable towels immediately after completing task.
- Young children are encouraged to take an interest in using the toilet; they may just want to sit on it and talk to a friend in the next cubicle who is also using the toilet.
- All used pull-ups and nappies will be disposed of in the on-site yellow nappy refuse bin. This is emptied and removed daily by a member of the premises team.
- All nappy changes will be recorded in our intimate care record form. (Appendix 2). These are sent home daily via the child's book bag so that parents/carers are informed of the changes throughout the day.
- Parents are requested to send a bag containing a clean change of clothes for their child in case of accidents. These clothes will only be used for that child.

### **Dealing with body fluids**

Urine, faeces, blood, and vomit will be cleaned up immediately and disposed of safely and

correctly by staff. When dealing with body fluids, staff wear protective clothing (disposal plastic gloves and aprons) wash themselves thoroughly afterward. Soiled children's clothing will be bagged to go home and tied to their book bags– staff will not rinse it. Children will be kept away from the affected area until the incident has been completely dealt with.

It is paramount that all staff maintain high standards of personal hygiene and will take all practicable steps to prevent and control the spread of infection.

### **Child Protection**

The Governors and staff at Banstead Prep School recognise that children with special needs and disabilities are particularly vulnerable to all types of abuse.

The school's Safeguarding and Child Protection policy and procedures will be accessible to staff and adhered to.

From a child protection perspective, it is acknowledged that intimate care involves risks for children and adults as it may involve staff touching private parts of a child's body. It may be unrealistic to expect to eliminate these risks completely but, in this school, best practice will be promoted, and all adults will be encouraged to be vigilant, at all times.

Where appropriate, all children will be taught personal safety skills carefully matched to their level of development and understanding.

If a member of staff has any concerns about physical changes in a child's presentation, e.g. unexplained marks, bruises, soreness etc. s/he will immediately report concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead – Julie Windett or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads – Sarah Nunn or Jon Chesworth. The safeguarding policy will then be implemented.

If a child becomes distressed or very unhappy about being cared for by a particular member of staff, this should be reported to the Head of EYFS or, Headteacher. The matter will be investigated at an appropriate level and outcomes recorded. Parents/carers will be contacted at the earliest opportunity as part of this process in order to reach a resolution. Further advice will be taken from outside agencies if necessary. (Parental permission is needed before talking to any agency about specific children.)

If a child makes an allegation against an adult working at the school, this will be investigated by the Headteacher (or by the Chair of Governors if the concern is about the Head teacher) in accordance with the Safeguarding Policy.

Any adult who has concerns about the conduct of a colleague at the school or about any improper practice will report this to the Headteacher or Deputy Head or to the Chair of Governors if the concern is about the Head teacher.

### **Record Keeping**

It is good practice for a written record to be kept every time a child requires assistance with intimate care, including date, times and who was present. See attached Intimate



Care Record Form.


This policy aims to manage risks associated with toileting and intimate care needs and ensures that employees do not work outside the remit of their responsibilities set out in this policy.


This policy applies to all members of our school community, including those in our EYFS setting and should be read in conjunction with the following documents: The Banstead Prep School Safeguarding and Child Protection policy, Health and safety policy and procedures, First Aid policy, Special Educational Needs policy and Staff guidance on safe working practice.

This document is available to all interested parties on the school's website and on request from the school office. It is reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team or as events or legislation change requires. The next scheduled date for review is September 2022.

Appendix 1

Intimate Care Record to be sent home


		<p align="center"><b>BANSTEAD PREP SCHOOL</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Notification of Intimate Care</b></p>	
<p><b>Name</b></p>			
Date	Time	Reason	Adult Signature

		<p align="center"><b>BANSTEAD PREP SCHOOL</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Notification of Intimate Care</b></p>	
<p><b>Name</b></p>			
Date	Time	Reason	Adult Signature



Appendix 2

Individual Intimate Care Record

		<b>BANSTEAD PREP SCHOOL</b>  <b>Individual Intimate Care Record</b>		
<b>Name</b>				
Date	Time	Code	Comment	Adult Signature

WP=wet pants    SP=soiled pants/clothing    WB=wipe bottom    CN=changed nappy  
 S=sore    AC=applied cream    TP=tried potty    TT=tried toilet    UP=used potty