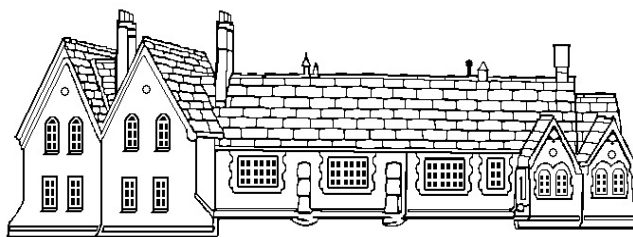


CULMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL



INTIMATE CARE POLICY

Principles of intimate care

- Every child has the right to be safe.
- Every child has the right to personal privacy.
- Every child has the right to be valued as an individual.
- Every child has the right to be treated with dignity and respect.
- Every child has the right to be involved and consulted in their own intimate care to the best of their abilities.
- Every child has the right to express their views on their own intimate care and to have such views taken into account.
- Every child has the right to have levels of intimate care that are as consistent as possible.

Responsibilities of staff involved with intimate care

- All staff working with children must be vetted/supervised. This includes students on work placement and volunteers. See vetting form.
- Only named identified staff should undertake the intimate care of children.
- The principal/designated teacher for child protection must ensure that all staff undertaking the intimate care of children are familiar with, and understand the intimate care policy and guidelines together with associated policy and procedures e.g. ACPC regional policy and procedures 2005, safeguarding vulnerable groups (Northern Ireland) order 2007.
- All staff must be trained in the specific types of intimate care that they carry out and fully understand the intimate care policy and guidelines within the context of their work.
- Intimate care arrangements must be agreed by the school, parents/guardian and child (if appropriate).
- Intimate care arrangements must be recorded in the child's personal file and consent forms signed by the parents/guardian and child (if appropriate).
- Staff should not undertake any aspect of intimate care that has not been agreed between the school, parents/guardian and child (if appropriate).
- Additional trained staff will be available to undertake specific intimate care tasks in the event of a staff member being sick or on leave.

- Intimate care arrangements will be reviewed regularly. The views of all relevant parties, including the child (if appropriate), will be sought and considered to inform future arrangements.
- If a staff member has concern about a colleague's intimate care practice they must report this to their designated teacher.

Working with children of the opposite sex

Principles

The individual child's safety, dignity and privacy are of paramount importance.

Intimate Care The intimate care of boys/girls can be carried out by a member of staff the way opposite sex with the following provisions:

- The delivery of intimate care by professionally qualified staff will be governed by Culmore Primary school professional code of conduct in conjunction with the school's policy and procedures and in agreement with the designated teacher for child protection/principle.

Communication with children

It is the responsibility of all staff caring for a child to ensure that they are aware of the child's method and level of communication.

Children communicate using different methods e.g. words, signs, symbols, body movements eye pointing.