

Lee Royd Nursery School



Intimate Care Policy 2017 - 2018

Written 15th November 2017

To be reviewed 15th November 2018

Intimate care is any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out an invasive procedure (such as cleaning up a pupil after they have soiled themselves) to intimate personal areas. In most cases such care will involve cleaning for hygiene purposes as part of a staff members duty of care.

The issue of intimate care is a sensitive one and will require staff to be respectful of the child's needs. The child's dignity should always be preserved with a level of privacy, choice and control. There will be a high awareness of child protection issues. Staff must work in partnership with parents/carers to provide continuity of care to children.

Lee Royd Nursery School are committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of children will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times. We recognise that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given. No child should be attended to in a way that causes distress or pain.

Staff who provide intimate care are trained to do so (including Child Protection and training in moving and handling) and are fully aware of best practice. The child 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 themselves as possible, i.e.:- removing wet trousers or underwear.

Careful consideration will be given to each child's situation to determine how many staff needed to be present when a child is toileted. If more than one member of staff is needed, the reasons will be documented in the child's care plan. When staff members have to change soiled nappies, they ensure that the child is not observed by other children. Staff will inform colleagues that they are changing a child. The adult changing the nappy / soiled underwear will inform another member of staff and record it in the changing book.

Child protection need not present an issue as the school will provide information for parents of the policy and practice of changing children. It is normal practice that a parent will sign an agreement to state that their child can be changed / cleaned by staff. This agreement allows the school and the parent to be aware of all the issues surrounding this task from the outset. Staff will not lift children on to the changing facility but will encourage the child to use the steps provided, under the guidance and sight of staff. Intimate care arrangements will be discussed with parents on a regular basis and recorded on the child's care plan.

The Protection of Children

Lancashire Safeguarding Children's Boards policies and procedures will be adhered to. If a member of staff has any concerns about physical changes in the child's appearance, i.e.:
- marks, bruises, soreness etc. He/she will immediately report concerns to the designated senior lead person for child protection, Mrs Smith or Mrs Maloney.