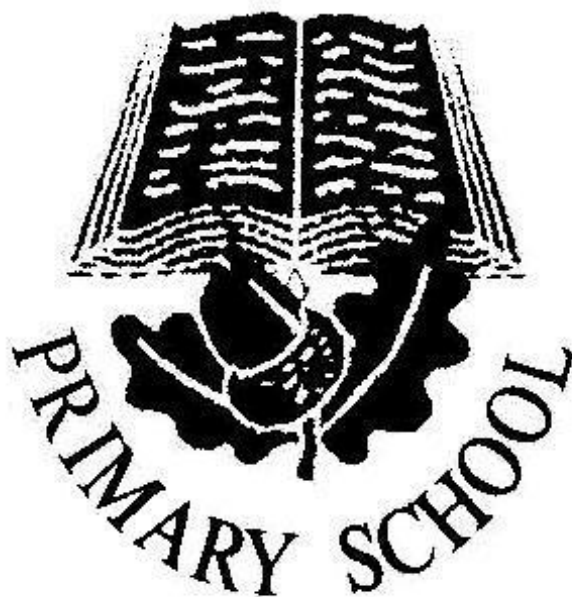


EDENDERRY



Intimate Care Policy

Accepted	Review Date
January 2018	January 2020

Introduction

Edenderry School staff aim to safeguard the welfare of each child in our care. We will support and encourage each child to become more independent in personal care, however we recognise that some children may need assistance.

Definition

Intimate Care may be defined as any activity required to meet the personal care needs of an 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:

- ◆ Feeding
- ◆ Dressing/undressing
- ◆ Toileting
- ◆ Supervision of a child in intimate self care

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 in and consulted about 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 these views taken into account
- ◆ Every child has the right to have levels of intimate care that are as consistent as possible

Responsibilities

The school will ensure that all staff undertaking intimate care of children are familiar with and understand the intimate care policy within the context of their work.

Intimate care arrangements will be agreed by the school, parents/carers and the child (where appropriate).

Staff will not undertake any aspect of intimate care that has not been agreed by the school, parents/carers and the child (where appropriate).

Intimate care arrangements will be reviewed as required.

Guidelines for Good Practice

- ◆ Children should be involved in their intimate care.
- ◆ Every child should be treated with dignity and respect, ensuring privacy appropriate to the child's age and situation.
- ◆ Practice in intimate care should be consistent.
- ◆ Any concerns regarding a child should be reported immediately.

Intimate Care Procedures

With these principles in mind the following intimate care procedures will be followed :-

- ◆ If a child requires assistance with feeding this will be carried out according to his/her need and in partnership with the child's parents.
- ◆ If a child requires toileting this will be carried out according to his/her need and in partnership with the child's parents.
- ◆ If a child needs a change of clothes he/she will be encouraged to change him/herself where possible
- ◆ If a child needs to change clothes, or be assisted to do so, a suitable place will be used. This will most likely be the toilet area closest to the child's classroom.
- ◆ If a child needs assistance and is agreeable staff will undertake these duties. The child will be talked through the procedure and reassured that he/she will not be left alone
- ◆ We will endeavour to be as discreet as possible and sensitive to each child's needs. A second member of staff will be present if available but will be discreet
- ◆ If a child is unable and unwilling to accept assistance to be changed staff will contact parents/carers immediately
- ◆ If, during an intimate procedure, staff notice any unusual markings, bruising, discolouration, swelling etc these will be notified to the Designated Teacher for Child Protection, or one of the Deputy Designated Teachers.

Where an arrangement regarding toileting has not been previously agreed with parents, a written note will be sent home in relation to the incident (see appendix 1).

Parents are expected to ensure that they keep the school informed of the contact numbers at which they, or a nominated adult can be contacted as and when required. They should make themselves available, if necessary to change their child at school,

or in the event of an accident, to take their child to the hospital or administer medication.

(Ref :- Southern Area Child Protection Committee, Intimate Care Policy and Guidelines Regarding Children)

Monitoring and Review

The policy and practices herein will be monitored by the Deputy Designated Teachers , Mrs Carol Mitchell and Mrs Lynn Watson.

This Policy will be reviewed every two years.

Review date Feb 18

Signed: _____ (Chairman of Board of Governors)

Signed: _____ (Principal)

Date: _____

Edenderry Primary School

Dear Parent,

Your child needed a change of clothes today at _____ because he/she

- Got wet while playing.
- Had a toilet accident
- Was sick
- Other _____

*Your child changed independently / your child was supported by _____

Signed.....

Date.....

Edenderry Primary School

Dear Parent,

Your child needed a change of clothes today at _____ because he/she

- Got wet while playing.
- Had a toilet accident
- Was sick
- Other _____

*Your child changed independently / your child was supported by _____

Signed.....

Date.....

Edenderry Primary School

Dear Parent,

Your child needed a change of clothes today at _____ because he/she

- Got wet while playing.
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