




Mousehole Primary School



Mousehole Primary School Intimate Care Policy

Last Review	December 2024
Next Review date	December 2026
I confirm that this policy has been reviewed and adopted by the Governing Body of Mousehole Primary School.	
Headteacher	
Chair of Local Monitoring Committee	
Date 4.12.2024	

Mousehole Primary School and Mousehole Mice Nursery

Toileting and Intimate Care Policy

All children at Mousehole Primary School and Mousehole Mice Nursery 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 Mousehole Primary School and Mousehole Mice Nursery.

This policy sets out clear principles and guidelines on supporting intimate care with specific reference to toileting. It should be considered in line with our Safeguarding Policy, Health and Safety Policies, Safe Touch Policy and Administering of Medicines policy.

Definition

Intimate care may be defined as any activity that is required to meet the personal needs of an individual child on a regular basis or during a one-off incident.

The purpose of this policy is:

- To safeguard the rights and promote the best interests of the children
- To ensure children are treated with sensitivity and respect, and in such a way that their experience of intimate care is a positive one
- To safeguard adults required to operate in sensitive situations
- To raise awareness and provide a clear procedure for intimate care
- To work with parents/carers in how intimate care is administered

This policy supports the safeguarding and welfare requirements of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) 2012, 'Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who Work with Children and Young People' and the Disability Discrimination Act 2005: Mousehole Primary 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.
- No child will be sent home or have to wait for their parents/carer due to incontinence
- Adjustments will be made for any child who has delayed incontinence

Intimate Care Tasks – cover any tasks that involves the dressing and undressing, washing including intimate parts, helping someone use the toilet, changing nappies or carrying out a procedure that requires direct or indirect contact to an intimate personal area.

Partnership with Parents/Carers – Staff at Mousehole Primary School work in partnership with parents/carers to provide care appropriate to the needs of the individual child and together, when necessary, will produce a care plan. The care plan will set out:

- What care is required
- Number of staff needed to carry out the task (if more than one person is required, reason will be documented)
- Additional equipment required

- Child's preferred means of communication (e.g. visual, verbal). Agree terminology for parts of the body and bodily functions
- Child's level of ability i.e. what tasks they are able to do by themselves
- Acknowledge and respect for any cultural or religious sensitivities related to aspects of intimate care
- Be regularly monitored and reviewed in accordance with the child's development

For children with delayed continence, parents/carers are asked to supply the following :-

- Spare nappies
- Wipes, creams, nappy sacks etc
- Spare Clothes
- Spare underwear

For children who may have an incident of incontinence but are normally continent, the above will be provided by the school and parents/carers will be informed of the incident at the end of the school day.

Best Practice – When intimate care is given, the member of staff explains fully each task that is carried out, and the reason for it. Visuals may be used to support with communication. Staff encourage children to do as much for themselves as they can, lots of praise and encouragement will be given to the child when they achieve.

All staff working in school, including EYFS, have a DBS check. In our Mousehole Mice Nursery, in order to maintain the child's privacy, we will carry out the intimate care support on a one-to-one basis, wherever possible, by the child's key person. Named staff members are identified in Reception, to change a child with known needs. Students and volunteers are not required to undertake any intimate care duties. All new EYFS staff will be given an induction and relevant training to ensure they are fully aware of all the procedures relating to intimate care routines. Intimate care will not take place behind closed doors.

Intimate care is recorded in Mousehole Mice Nursery and this is shared with the child's parent/carer. In our Reception classes, and or other year groups, an intimate care record sheet is filled in, signed and kept on school premises. These record sheets also detail how the intimate care has been communicated with parents/carers. If intimate care is given to a child who doesn't regularly require intimate care, parents are verbally informed of any incidents/changes at school or in the Nursery.

Safeguarding – Staff are trained on the signs and symptoms of child abuse in line with Cornwall's Safeguarding Guidelines and are aware of the DFES booklet 'What to do if you think a child is being abused' and will follow the guidance given .

If a member of staff is concerned about any physical or emotional changes, such as marks, bruises, soreness, distress etc they will inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead / Headteacher immediately. The Safeguarding Policy will then be implemented.

Should a child become unhappy about being cared for by a particular member of staff, the Designated Safeguarding Lead / Headteacher will look into the situation and record any findings. These will be discussed with the child's parents/carers in order to resolve the problem. If necessary the DSL/HT will seek advice from other agencies.

If a child makes an allegation against a member of staff, the procedure set out in the Safeguarding Policy will be followed.

Dealing with body fluids – Urine, faeces, blood and vomit will be cleaned up immediately and disposed of safely by double bagging cloths, wipes and other resources used to clear the area and disposed of in yellow bin bags in the outside yellow dustbin. When dealing with body fluids, staff must wear protective clothing (disposal plastic gloves and aprons) and wash themselves thoroughly afterward. Soiled children's clothing will be double bagged to go home – staff will not rinse it or wash garments in the washing machine unless there is an agreement stated on a child's individual intimate care plan. Children will be kept away from the affected area until the incident has been completely dealt with.

All staff must maintain high standards of personal hygiene, and will take all practicable steps to prevent and control the spread of infection.

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.