



Gawber Primary School

GAWBER PRIMARY SCHOOL INTIMATE CARE POLICY

September 2022



Rationale

It is our intention to develop independence in every child. However, there will be occasions when help is required. Our intimate care policy has been developed to safeguard children and staff.

Children are generally more vulnerable than adults and staff involved with any aspect of pastoral care need to be sensitive to their individual needs.

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. Such activities can include:

- changing clothes
- toileting
- first aid and medical assistance
- supervision of a child involved in intimate self-care.

Intimate care is also carried out in accordance with our First Aid policy.

Parents have a responsibility to advise the school of any known intimate care needs relating to their child.

Gawber Primary 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.

The Protection of Children

Education Child Protection Procedures will be adhered to:

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, such as marks, bruises, soreness etc., they will immediately report concerns to the designated teacher for child protection.

If a child makes an allegation against a member of staff, all necessary Child Protection procedures will be followed.

The Protection of Staff

All staff should ensure that they work in pairs when dealing with a child who is bleeding or soiled. Parents should always be informed of any soiling incidents. Incidents will be recorded in the Incident and Illness register located in the school office.

Health and Safety

Staff should wear plastic gloves when dealing with a child who is bleeding or soiled. Any soiled waste will then be disposed of in the appropriate bag and bin specifically designated for the disposal of such waste.

Special Needs

Children with special needs have the same rights to safety and privacy when receiving intimate care. As with all arrangements for intimate care needs, agreements between the child, those with parental responsibility and the school should be easily understood and recorded.

Physical Contact

All staff engaged in the care and education of children need to exercise caution in the use of physical contact.

Staff should be aware that even well intentioned physical contact might be misconstrued directly by the child, an observer or anyone the action is described to. Staff must therefore always be prepared to justify actions and accept that all physical contact will be open to scrutiny.