



LADY BANKES

PRIMARY SCHOOL

INTIMATE CARE POLICY

MARCH 2023

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INTRODUCTION

This Intimate Care Policy has been developed to safeguard children and adults. It applies to everyone involved in the intimate care of our pupils.

Lady Bankes Primary School is aware that all learners need open access to clean, well-stocked and safe toileting provision and that some learners may require assistance from members of staff for personal care, including toileting, either due to the age and developmental level of the student, or as a result of disability or medical need. The main aim of the school is to ensure that our learners are safe, secure and protected from harm. Lady Bankes Primary School also recognises that not only is it in the best interests of the whole school community to maintain clean, hygienic toilet facilities, but that it is everyone's responsibility to help ensure that they remain this way.

AIM

The intimate care policy aims to provide a clear framework for staff to ensure the safety and dignity of all learners when using the toilet and for those who need support with personal care, including toileting and continence management. It will also clarify for learners and their families the support they can expect from school.

SCHOOLS RESPONSIBILITIES

We will work with the whole school community to ensure access to clean, well-stocked private and safe toilet facilities for all.

We will work with learners, parents/carers to promote bladder and bowel health and maximum possible continence.

We would generally expect children to be toilet trained prior to starting at the school, with exception of children who have medical or other developmental reasons. Where learners are not able to be fully continent, we will ensure that an individual care plan is written to ensure their needs are clarified and met. The learner will be included in discussions about the care plan, unless this is clearly inappropriate, as will their family. Relevant healthcare professionals including the school nurse may also be consulted. The care plan will be reviewed at least annually, or sooner, if the learner's needs change.

School will ensure that anyone who undertakes intimate care is an employee of the school and has had appropriate safeguarding checks.

Occasionally, pupils accidentally wet/or soil themselves at school and require assistance changing. This is dealt with as discreetly as possible, however in some instances parents may be called to collect a child who needs cleaning. This act of care would be reported to a senior member of school staff and to the parents/carers as soon as possible after the event. A consent form asking for permission to assist a child in such instances is sent home in the school admissions pack (see Appendix 1).

A written record will be kept of all support with intimate care. This will include the date and time of the care, who was present and any care given that has differed from the care plan, together with the reason for this. Any changes in the learner's behaviour or appearance will be documented and reported to a senior member of staff, in line with the safeguarding policy.

School will take into account the religious views, beliefs and cultural values of the learner and their family, as well as the learner's gender identification and individual physical needs (e.g. periods, catheterisation, stoma care etc) as far as possible in provision of appropriate toileting facilities and when undertaking or supporting required individual personal care.

School will work with all learners to promote positive self-esteem and body image and independence with self-care as far as is appropriate and practical.

School will ensure that all staff are aware of the need for confidentiality. Personal and sensitive information will only be shared with those who need to know.

School will act according to their safeguarding policy and procedures if there are any concerns for the learner's wellbeing.

PARENT/CARER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents/carers must ensure that they provide all relevant information to school, as soon as possible, so that the needs of their child can be met. This includes the nature of their child's needs, details of any healthcare professionals involved including specialist nurses, as well as any changes in their medication, care or condition.

Parents/carers must ensure that they work towards their child achieving the maximum possible level of independence at home.

Parents/carers should work with school to develop and agree a care plan.

Parents/carers must make sure that school always has required equipment available for their child's intimate care or toileting needs.

Parents/carers must ensure that school always has their emergency contact details.

LEARNER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

To respect the toileting space and others use of that space and right to privacy.

To let school staff know if there is a problem with respect to the toileting/intimate care spaces

To be as involved as possible in their intimate care and with their care plan.

To let school staff know when they are aware that they need assistance.

To let their parent/carer or a trusted member of school staff know if they have any concerns or feel uncomfortable at any time