



## Intimate Care Policy 2025 - 2026

### 1. Introduction

Nateby Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare, dignity, and independence of all children. This policy outlines the principles, practices, and procedures in place to support pupils who require assistance with intimate care. It ensures that children's personal needs are met safely, respectfully, and in ways that uphold their privacy and self-esteem.

### 2. Aims

- To safeguard the rights and wellbeing of all pupils who may require intimate care.
- To provide staff with clear guidance on their roles and responsibilities.
- To ensure good practice and consistency across the school.
- To work in partnership with parents and carers to meet individual needs.
- To comply with all statutory requirements, including Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE), Working Together to Safeguard Children, and The Equality Act 2010.

### 3. Definition of Intimate Care

Intimate care may include any of the following:

- Support with toileting or changing.
- Assistance with continence management or menstrual care.
- Help with washing or bathing due to medical, developmental, or disability-related needs.
- Assistance with dressing or undressing when necessary.
- First aid or medical support involving intimate areas.

Intimate care does not include routine physical contact such as comforting a distressed child or helping with coats or shoes.

### 4. Principles of Good Practice

Intimate care should:

- Be child-centred, respecting each child's dignity, privacy, and right to be treated with respect.
- Promote independence and self-care skills whenever possible.
- Be undertaken only by staff who are familiar with the child's needs and trained appropriately.
- Be provided in a way that is consistent, safe, and sensitive to individual circumstances.
- Be carried out in partnership with parents, carers, and, where appropriate, health professionals.

### 5. Roles and Responsibilities

- Headteacher: Ensures all procedures are in place, staff are trained, and records are maintained.
- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Oversees safeguarding aspects of intimate care.

- Staff: Follow the agreed procedures, maintain confidentiality, and report any concerns immediately.
- Parents/Carers: Provide relevant information about their child's care needs and work collaboratively with the school.

## **6. Staff Training**

- Staff involved in intimate care will receive appropriate training, including safeguarding and infection control.
- Where a child has specific medical or personal care needs, additional specialist training will be provided.

## **7. Facilities**

- Suitable, private changing and toileting areas will be provided.
- Supplies (e.g., gloves, wipes, disposal bins) will be available in designated areas.
- Staff will adhere to health and safety and infection control procedures.

## **8. Record Keeping**

- Each episode of intimate care (beyond routine toileting) should be recorded, including date, time, staff involved, and any concerns.
- Any unusual observations (e.g., marks, injuries) must be reported immediately to the DSL following safeguarding procedures.

## **9. Safeguarding**

- The school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy must always be followed.
- Staff will be vigilant for any signs of abuse or neglect.
- Any concerns will be reported without delay to the DSL or deputy DSL.
- Two adults should be present where possible, especially during more complex care needs, in line with the child's care plan.

## **10. Partnership with Parents and Carers**

- Parents will be consulted before care arrangements are implemented.
- A written Intimate Care Plan will be agreed and reviewed regularly.
- Parents should provide spare clothes and personal care items where required.

## **11. Managing Concerns or Complaints**

- Any concerns about intimate care practice will be dealt with in accordance with the school's Complaints and Safeguarding policies.
- Allegations of abuse will be managed in line with statutory safeguarding procedures.

## **12. Monitoring and Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if required due to changes in legislation or best practice.

Reviewed by: Headteacher - Mrs H Smith & Governing Body

Next Review Date: Sept 2026