



Dromintee Primary School

Intimate Care Policy

An Léann, An Grá, An Sult



Academic year 2022-2023

Introduction

This document outlines the approach to Intimate Care in Dromintee Primary School. The Intimate Care Policy and Guidelines Regarding Children have been developed to safeguard children and staff. They apply to everyone involved in the intimate care of children. Children with a disability can be especially vulnerable. Staff involved with their intimate care need to be sensitive to their individual needs.

Definition

Intimate care may be defined as any activity required to meet the personal care needs of each individual child (in partnership with the parents/carers and child).

Intimate care can include:

- Feeding
- Oral care
- Washing
- Dressing
- Dressing/undressing
- Toileting
- Menstrual Care

Principles of Intimate Care

The following are the fundamental Principles of Intimate Care upon which the policy and Guidelines are based:

- 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, including period dignity
- Every child has the right to be involved and consulted on 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 such views taken into account.
- Every child has the right to have levels of intimate care that are as consistent as possible.

Supervision of a child involved in intimate care

Parents/carers have a responsibility to advise staff of the intimate care needs of their child and will be asked to sign a permission slip for an adult to help in the intimate care of their child.

Toileting/Accidents

Parental permission will be sought at the beginning of the year for the school staff to change a child's uniform if they become wet. In the event of a child having a soiling accident we will inform parent/carer to make appropriate arrangements to visit the school to take charge of the situation. Where we are unable to make contact with the parent, or the parent is unable to attend the school, we will change the child using a spare uniform *, encouraging independence where possible. Where this occurs 2 adults will be present and the incident will be recorded on the Child Protection record pro-forma. The pro-forma notice will be sent home to parents/carers.

The emotional state of the child is paramount at all times. If at any stage a child appears distressed or uncomfortable when personal care tasks are being carried out, the care will stop immediately and parents/carers will be contacted or notified.

Record Keeping and Communication

All staff undertaking the intimate care of children will be familiar with the Intimate Care Policy and procedures relating to the Child Protection Policy. Staff should not undertake any aspect of intimate care that has not been agreed.

The school will record all intimate care arrangements and these will be signed and dated and copied to parents/carers. All intimate care records will be kept in the Child Protection Intimate Care folder held by the Designated Teacher. Confidentiality and privacy will be adhered to at all times.

When a child requires intimate care the task will be carried out and signed by two adults. The school will set in place effective communication between parents/carers to ensure practice is consistent.

At all times the intimate care details and care undertaken will be monitored by the Designated Teacher and Principal.

Our school recognises that all children have the right to be safe and to be treated with dignity and respect. Any concerns regarding child protection issues will be reported as detailed in the Child Protection Policy.

Related School Policies

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy Code of Conduct for staff

Pastoral Care Policy Health and Safety Policy

Use of Reasonable Force and Safe Handling Policy

This policy will be reviewed as required, to ensure it fits the needs of the pupils. Staff will update following newly issued DE guidelines.

November 2022



Dromintee Primary School

In order to safeguard your child and the staff in our school, we need your permission if we are to help change your child. Your child may need his/her clothing changed for a number of reasons, for example, through toileting accidents, vomiting or getting wet through play.

All contact with children follows the school's Intimate Care Policy and you will receive a record of the event.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Fiona Fearon

Designated teacher for Child Protection.

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I have received a copy of the school's Intimate Care policy and
I give permission for teachers or classroom assistants to help change my
child in school, if necessary.

Signed Parent/Guardian

Date

Dromintee Primary School
Note to Parent / Guardian



Date: _____

Time: _____

Name of child: _____

Class: _____

Reason for child needing assistance (please circle):

- Toileting accident
- Other - please specify:

Name of adult that assisted:

Name of second adult:

Signed: _____



Dromintee Primary School

Child Protection Record of Intimate Care

Date: _____ Time: _____

Name of child: _____

Class: _____

Reason for child needing assistance (please circle):

- Toileting accident
- Other - please specify:

Name of adult that assisted:

Name of second adult:

Signed: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO DESIGNATED TEACHER FOR CHILD PROTECTION

Mrs Fiona Fearon

