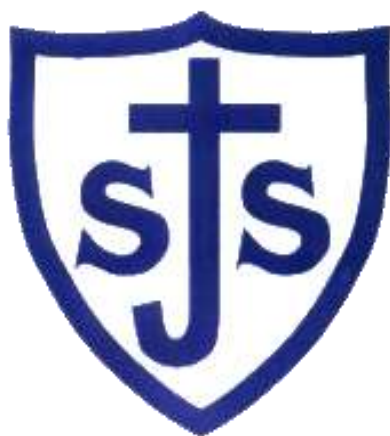


ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL CRAYFORD



INTIMATE CARE POLICY

Learning and growing together with Christ

Updated:	Spring 2025
To be Reviewed:	Spring 2028
Approved by:	Finance Committee

Intent

It is our intention to develop independence in each child, however there will be occasions when help is required. 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. A positive partnership with parents is developed to ensure the child is at the heart of everything we do.

The following are the fundamental principles 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
- every child has the right to be involved and consulted in 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.

Intimate care can include:

- toileting
- changing clothes
- first aid and medical assistance.

Implementation

We believe that our partnership with parents is an essential principle in our school and is particularly necessary in relation to children needing intimate care. We recognise that the information required to carry out intimate care is gained from parents. We acknowledge that cultural influences may affect what is deemed 'intimate' and ensure we pay regard to social, ethnic and cultural perspectives through open dialogue with parents. Parents should be encouraged and empowered to work with staff to ensure that their child's needs are identified, understood and met. All information concerning intimate care procedures is recorded and stored securely. We appreciate that sometimes children have toileting 'accidents' which are out of character for them. In the event of this, and in the absence of a personal intimate care plan, the child would be fully encouraged and supported to achieve the highest level of autonomy that is possible given their age and ability. Staff will encourage the child to do as much for his/herself as possible and parents will be informed the same day. On the rare occasion that a child is soiled to a point where they are unable to clean themselves to a comfortable state, parents would be contacted immediately so that the child could be taken home for bathing.

Staff involved with children's intimate care will be particularly sensitive to the child's individual needs. They will involve the child in the intimate care and try to encourage a child's independence as far as possible in his or her intimate care. Staff will wear disposable gloves and aprons while dealing with the incident. Soiled underwear should be double wrapped and placed in a sealed bag. The changing area to be cleaned after use.

Staff will treat every child with dignity and respect and ensure privacy appropriate to the child's age and situation. Adults who assist pupils with intimate care are employees of the school, not students or volunteers, and therefore have the usual range of safer recruitment checks, including enhanced DBS checks.

An individual member of staff should inform another appropriate adult when they are going to assist a pupil with intimate care. Intimate care should be undertaken with a minimum of two adults in attendance so as to safeguard both the adults and the child. Where this is not possible the member of staff conducting the intimate care should inform another adult of the assistance they are providing, where they are providing it and ensure that the door to the space is left open.

The school's child protection procedures will be adhered to.

Impact

All pupils will be supported to achieve the highest level of autonomy that is possible given their age and abilities. Staff will encourage each individual pupil to do as much for his/herself as possible. All pupils will be supported to become independent in toileting if they do not have any underlying medical condition.

The incident of a toileting accident or intimate care requirement will be recorded.

Permission for intimate care**Appendix 1**

Child's Name:	
DOB:	
Address:	
Parent/Carer:	
I/We give permission for the assistance detailed in the policy to be provided to my/our child, and will advise the school of any change that may affect this provision.	
Signed: Parent/Carer	Date:

Appendix 2

Individual Intimate Care Plan		
Child's Name:	DOB:	
Nature of Need:		
Assistance:		
Timetable:		
Persons Assisting:		
Alternative Arrangements:		
Location/Equipment:		

	Signed	Date
Parent/Carer:		
Pupil:		
Staff:		
Head of School:		

Appendix 3

[illegible]