

ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY UNIT



Toileting and Intimate Care Policy

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:

- Assisting a child who is physically sick;
- changing clothes;
- toileting;
- first aid.

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

Intimate Care may include toileting. It is necessary for children to develop their own skills at toileting. However, during the school day your child's emotional and physical well-being is the concern of the school's staff.

To ensure the comfort and welfare of nursery and Foundation Years' pupils (P1 and P2) the arrangements relating to toileting accidents are:

- If a child has had an accident he/she will be helped by the teacher or assistant to change and parents will be informed.
- Written permission by persons with parental responsibility must be given before this arrangement can be put in place.
- The designated members of staff who attend to the needs of pupils in these circumstances are the nursery and foundation stage staff.
- If intimate care is required children will be encouraged to be as independent as possible but some children may require assistance.
- When such assistance is given parents are always informed.

Principles Of Intimate Care

The following are the fundamental principles of intimate care upon which our policy 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;
- all children have the right to be involved and consulted in their own intimate care to the best of their abilities;
- all children have 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 appropriate and consistent.

School Practice

- Only those named members of staff who are familiar with the intimate care policy and other pastoral care policies of the school are involved in the toileting and intimate care of children.
- Consent forms are signed by the parent and stored in the child's file.
- Staff should not undertake any aspect of intimate care that has not been agreed by parents and school and the child (if appropriate).
- If a staff member has concerns about any aspect of intimate care practice he or she must report this to the designated teacher for child protection.

St Patrick's Primary School



Personal Care Consent Form

In St. Patrick's Primary School children are encouraged to become completely independent in their personal care and toileting needs. Children are free to use toilets at any time during the day. However, occasions may arise when a child may need support with their personal care as a consequence of having had a 'toileting issue'. On such occasions a designated member of staff will be available to arrange for the child to get an appropriate change of clothing.

Volunteers or students will not be asked to offer such care, unless in an extreme emergency.

If your child has a 'toileting issue' a designated member of staff will:-

- Console the child and provide him/her with a change of clothes from the school supply.
- Escort the child to a changing area, and if required, assist in cleaning the child and/or changing his/her clothes.
- The bag of soiled clothing is to be collected by parent/carer and washed at home.
- The child's parent/carer will be informed of the 'toileting issue' as soon as possible.
- If a child resists the care being offered, by a designated member of staff, the parent/carer will be contacted and no further action taken until their arrival.
- If a child is having 'toileting issues' frequently, the teacher will meet the parents to discuss and plan appropriate action.

If you are prepared to accept the protocol outlined above, please sign the consent form to enable staff to take appropriate action.

Please Note

- If permission is not given, the parent/carer will be contacted to provide the necessary personal care, as when required.
- When contact cannot be established with the parent/carer, the school reserves the right to use its own discretion.

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- The bag of soiled clothing is to be collected by parent/carer and washed at home.
- The change of clothes from the school supply should be washed and returned to school.
- The child's parent/carer will be informed of the 'toileting issue' as soon as possible.
- If a child resists the care being offered, by a designated member of staff, the parent/carer will be contacted and no further action taken until their arrival.
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Personal Care Consent Form

I give permission for a member of staff that is familiar with the Intimate Care Policy

to help (child's name) _____ with personal care if required.

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____