



# **Lansdowne Turney Federation**



## **Intimate Care Policy**

**Adopted: October 2023**

**Review Date: September 2024**

# **Intimate Care Policy**

## **Introduction**

Intimate Care is any personal care activity a student would normally be able to do for him/herself which involves washing, touching or carrying out an invasive procedure (such as cleaning up after a child has soiled him/herself) to intimate personal areas. Such care will involve procedures to do with personal hygiene and the cleaning of equipment associated with the process as part of a staff member's duty of care.

## **Our Principles**

- The management of all students with intimate care needs will be carefully planned where appropriate.
- Prior permission must be obtained from parents before intimate care procedures are undertaken
- The most appropriate environment should be selected to ensure privacy and dignity at all times. Care should always be undertaken with tact, sensitivity and in an unhurried manner. Whenever possible, gloves should be worn.
- If washing is required, always use a disposable cloth or baby wipe and, where possible, encourage the child to attempt to wash private parts themselves. Emphasis should be on staff providing the minimum level of assistance and intervention, compatible with the particular circumstances and the child's needs.
- Parents/carers who have students wearing nappies will be asked to supply appropriately sized nappies, wipes and disposable bags. The school will supply gloves. We also require parents to supply specialist swimwear designed to promote hygiene in the swimming pool.
- A student who requires intimate care is treated with respect at all times; the child's welfare and dignity is of paramount importance. Each child's right to privacy will be respected.
- Training is delivered according to the needs of individual students. Staff who provide intimate care are trained to do so (including Child Protection) and are fully aware of best practice.
- Suitable equipment and facilities will be provided to assist with children who need special arrangements following assessment from physiotherapist/occupational therapist.
- The student will be supported to achieve the highest level of autonomy that is possible given their age and abilities. Staff will encourage each child to do as much for them self as they can. This may mean, for example, giving the child responsibility for washing themselves, or changing a sanitary towel independently.
- Depending on the needs of the pupils, they may have one to one support for intimate care, with another adult in the vicinity.
- Intimate care is provided by the same sex where possible across the Federation