



Ecclesall Kids Club

1.5 Intimate Care Policy

When providing intimate care, we will ensure that the child's safety, dignity and privacy are maintained at all times.

'Intimate care' covers any task that involves the washing, touching or carrying out a procedure to intimate personal areas and is associated with bodily functions and personal hygiene, including, toileting, washing, dressing, and menstrual care.

Staff at Ecclesall Kids Club who provide intimate care will do so in a professional manner. Staff are aware of safeguarding issues and will have relevant training (e.g.: health and safety, child protection, manual handling) before providing intimate care. No child should suffer distress or pain as a result of receiving intimate care.

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 their views taken into account
- Every child has the right to have levels of intimate care that are appropriate and consistent

The Care Plan

Staff will work in partnership with parents or carers to provide care appropriate to the needs of the individual child and together will produce a care plan. The care plan will set out:

- What care is required
- Number of staff needed to carry out the task (if more than one person is required, reasons will be documented)
- Additional equipment required
- Child's preferred means of communication (e.g., verbal, visual)
- Child's level of ability – what tasks they are able to carry out by themselves

Best practice

If a child requires intimate care, it is our procedure for two members of staff to be present, whilst the child is being cared for. In this way the child is less likely to become overly dependent on a single member of staff, and to become distressed if their usual carer is occasionally unavailable. When



intimate care is given, the member of staff will explain to the child each task that is carried out and the reasons for it. Staff will encourage children to do as much for themselves as they can. Staff are aware they should not perform intimate care procedures alone to safeguard them and the child.

We have policies in place that promote safe recruitment, as well as having sound staff supervision, safeguarding and intimate care procedures; together these ensure that, should a child need consistent care from one member of staff, the child's safety and well-being will not be compromised.

Protecting children

Ecclesall Kids Club Staff are familiar with guidance from the Local Safeguarding Children Board and our procedures reflect the guidance in Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023) and staff are familiar with the 'What To Do If You're Worried A Child Is Being Abused' flowchart from this document. If a member of staff is concerned about any physical changes to a child, such as marks, bruises, soreness etc., they will inform the Club's designated safeguarding lead immediately. The procedures set out in the Safeguarding Children policy will be implemented. Should a child become unhappy about being cared for by a particular member of staff, the manager will investigate and record any findings. These will be discussed with the child's parents or carers in order to resolve the issue. If necessary, the manager will seek advice from outside agencies. If a child makes an allegation against a member of staff, the procedure set out in the Safeguarding Children policy will be followed and LADO contacted for advice.

Assisting a child to change their clothes

The child will always be given the opportunity to change themselves in private. If the child is unable to complete this task unaided, 2 members of staff will assist the child. Explaining to the child what they are doing and why. The club will have a supply of wipes, clean underwear and spare clothes. In the case of dealing with bodily fluids/faeces; protective equipment will be worn. Soiled clothing will be placed into plastic bags and returned to the parents. Club staff are not to rinse any soiled clothing. Protective equipment must be disposed of properly.

Assisting a child who requires a specific medical procedure

Occasionally a child will have significant medical needs and in addition to the arrangements included in our Administration of Medication Policy may have an individual care plan. The care plan will have been formulated by the relevant medical body and supplied to us by the parent, as per the care plan noted above.

Dealing with blood and body fluids

Blood, vomit, urine and faeces will be cleaned up immediately and disposed of safely by double bagging the waste and removing it from the premises. When they are dealing with body fluids, staff will wear personal protective clothing (disposable plastic gloves and aprons) and will wash themselves thoroughly afterwards. Soiled children's clothing will be bagged to go home – staff will not rinse it. Children will be kept away from the affected area until the incident has been dealt with fully.



Staff at Ecclesall Kids Club will maintain high standards of personal hygiene, and will take all practicable steps to prevent and control the spread of infection. Bodily fluids go inside the yellow bin in the disabled toilet.

This policy was adopted by: Ecclesall Kids Club	Date: 11/11/20
Reviewed: 23/02/24	Signed: <i>Ecclesall Kids Club Committee</i>

Written in accordance with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2023):
Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Special educational needs [3.67], Child protection [3.6] and Suitable people [3.9-3.13].