

INTIMATE CARE POLICY

PRINCIPLE

Intimate care is any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out an invasive procedure (such as cleaning up a child after they have soiled themselves) to intimate personal areas. In most cases such care will involve cleaning for hygiene purposes as part of a staff member's duty of care. In the case of a specific procedure only a person suitably trained and assessed as competent should undertake the procedure.

Staff training will be provided where it is deemed necessary/appropriate

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The issue of intimate care is a sensitive one and requires that all staff are respectful of the child's needs. The child's dignity should always be preserved with a high level of privacy, choice and control. All staff should have a high awareness of child protection issues. Staff behaviour must be open to scrutiny and staff must work in partnership with parents/carers to provide continuity of care to children/young people wherever possible.

Primrose Hill is committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of children will always undertake their duties in a professional manner. We recognise that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given.

No child should be attended to in a way that causes distress or pain.

PROCEDURES FOR NAPPY CHANGING AND TOILETING

-Any intimate care, such as nappy changing and toilet training, will be carried out with respect and regard to the child's right to dignity and privacy.

-Wherever possible, their key person or buddy will carry out this care and ensure it is used as a time for positive shared interaction rather than just a hurried routine.

-Staff will have regard to strict hygiene procedures by wearing disposable gloves and aprons and appropriately cleaning equipment. These are to be changed between each child if doing numerous children.

- Babies should have their bottoms thoroughly cleaned from front to back and any soiled clothes should be changed.
- Soiled nappies must be placed in a nappy sack before disposing of in the nappy bin.
- Children should not be allowed to take toys into the bathroom.
- Older children will be encouraged to use self-help skills regarding toileting but their key person should be aware of their abilities in this area and be available to offer help if necessary.

PROCEDURES FOR PUTTING BABIES TO SLEEP

- Staff will follow the baby's individual routine regarding sleep times and routines.
- Each child will have their own named sheet which is laundered weekly.
- The nursery follows the recommendations of the 'Back to Sleep' campaign and babies under 1 year of age are put down to sleep on their back with their feet to the foot of the cot. Where there are exceptional circumstances, parents who sign consent may request for their child to sleep on their front, if they are aware of the recommendations.
- When leaving babies/toddlers to sleep in the sleep room, staff will keep a record of the time they fall asleep. At 15-minute intervals staff will re-enter the room to check on the child, recording each check on the sheet. Staff will also record the time that the child awakes.