



INTIMATE CARE NEEDS POLICY 2020

Intimate care needs policy within SPHE covers the following:

- 1. Toileting at Break/Lunch**
- 2. Injuries / cuts not readily accessible and covered by child's clothing**
- 3. Wetting / Soiling**
- 4. Specific Toileting / Intimate Care needs**
- 5. Menstruation**

Context for policy:

- Duty of care
- in Loco Parentis
- Health and Safety
- Child Protection

Toileting at Break/Lunch

- All children to be reminded by class teachers that they should go the toilet before going out into the yard.
- All children have access to toilet facilities at Break/Lunch times.
- Junior & Senior Infants can be escorted to their 'classroom toilets' by the SNA on duty.
- Best Practice is that the child will seek permission from Teacher to go to the Toilet.

Injuries/ cuts not readily accessible and covered by child's clothing:

- In the case where a non-visible injury or cut is sustained, the child will be invited to inspect the cut in the privacy of a toilet. Where this is not possible, 2 adults will be present.
- Parents will be informed of the incident and how it was dealt with. This will usually be done by the School Secretary or Principal.

Wetting / Soiling

- Parental Permission will be sought and registered on Aladdin in relation to Toileting Incidents.
- A supply of clean underwear, wipes and tracksuit bottoms is generally stocked in school.

- Where appropriate, the child will be offered fresh clothing to clean and change themselves.
- If the child is unable to, unwilling to change independently or with assistance then further parental advice will be sought. Where assistance is required, 2 members of Staff will be present.
- Parents will be informed where a toileting incident has occurred. They will be asked to come to the school and collect any child where soiling has occurred.

Children with Specific Toileting / Intimate Care Needs

- In all situations where a pupil needs assistance with toileting / intimate care, a meeting will be convened, after enrolment and before the child starts school. Parents, Guardians, Principal, Class Teacher, SNA, and if appropriate, the pupil, will attend.
- The specific care needs of the child, and how the school will be meet them, will be clarified.
- Personnel involved in this care will be identified.
- A Care Plan will be drawn up and ratified by the BOM is required.
- Provisions for occasions when staff are absent will be outlined (e.g. Substitute SNAS will not generally be involved in intimate care.) Any change of personnel will be discussed with the pupil, if appropriate.
- Two members of staff will be present when dealing with intimate care needs.
- Any changes in an individual child's 'personal care' plan will be discussed with parent/guardian and pupil and noted in writing to the pupil's care plan.'
- As far as possible the pupil will be involved in identification of his/her personal requirements, wishes, changes etc.
- Parents will be notified of any changes from agreed procedures.
- The dignity and privacy of the pupil is paramount in addressing intimate care needs.
- Staff will wear protective gloves where necessary or appropriate.

Menstruation

- A supply of Sanitary Products are available in 5th & 6th girls' toilet and girls in 4th are aware that teacher has supply of products if the need arises.
- Sanitary bins are provided in toilet areas for pupils use.
- Parents will be contacted should the need arise.

This Policy was reviewed following staff Consultation.

Ratified by Board of Management on 04/10/2022
Date

Signed Fr. James Cullen
Fr. James Cullen, C.C., Chairperson BOM

Marie B (Principal)