

**Princess Frederica**

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**CE VA Primary School**

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A large, faint watermark of the school crest is centered on the page. The crest features a shield with a tree, a book, and a bundle of wheat, surrounded by a laurel wreath and a banner at the bottom that reads 'PRINCESS FREDERICA CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL'.

## **INTIMATE CARE POLICY**

Reviewed:  
To be Reviewed:

January 2016  
January 2017 or sooner in light of legislation change

# Princess Frederica CE VA Primary School

## Intimate Care Policy

***Princess Frederica CE VA Primary School is committed to child protection and safeguarding children and young people and expects all staff, visitors and volunteers to share this commitment.***

### **Related Policies**

*Child Protection and Safeguarding  
H&S and Welfare*

At Princess Frederica, teachers and teachers' assistants may undertake care tasks of an intimate nature such as cleaning a pupil after soiling or wetting, supporting pupils with medical conditions of an intimate nature. In such instances, it is important that great care is taken to maintain the pupil's dignity and safeguarding guidance is at the forefront of the staff member's mind.

### **Introduction**

Members of staff who work with pupils will realise that the issue of intimate care is a difficult one and will require staff to be respectful of the pupil's needs.

Intimate care can be defined as care tasks of an intimate nature, associated with bodily functions, body products and personal hygiene which demand direct or indirect contact with or exposure of the genitals.

Examples include care associated with continence and menstrual management as well as more ordinary tasks such as help with washing or bathing.

The pupil's dignity will be preserved and a high level of privacy, choice and control will be provided to them.

Members of staff who provide intimate care to pupils have a high awareness of child protection and safeguarding issues.

The behaviour of members of staff is open to scrutiny.

Members of staff deliver a full personal safety curriculum, as part of Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education, to all pupils as appropriate to their developmental level and degree of understanding.

This work is shared with parents who are encouraged to reinforce the personal safety messages within the home.

Princess Frederica School is committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of pupils will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times.

PF recognises that there is a need to treat all pupils with respect when intimate care is given.

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

## **Our Approach to Best Practice**

All pupils who require intimate care are treated respectfully at all times; the pupil's welfare and dignity is of paramount importance.

Members of staff who provide intimate care are trained to do so (including Child Protection and Safeguarding and Health and Safety training) and are fully aware of best practice.

Members of staff will be supported to adapt their practice in relation to the needs of individual pupils taking into account developmental changes such as the onset of puberty and menstruation.

There is careful communication with each pupil who needs help with intimate care in line with their preferred means of communication (verbal, symbolic, etc.) to discuss the pupil's needs and preferences.

The pupils are aware of each procedure that is carried out and the reasons for it. As a basic principle pupils will be supported to achieve the highest level of autonomy that is possible given their age and abilities.

At Princess Frederica we do not admit pupils wearing nappies as we do not have the appropriate change facilities.

Staff will encourage each pupil to do as much for themselves as they can. This may mean, for example, giving the pupil responsibility for washing themselves.

In some instances, individual intimate care plans will be drawn up for particular pupils as appropriate to suit the circumstances of the pupil. These plans will include a full risk assessment to address issues such as moving and handling and the personal safety of the pupil.

Each pupil's right to privacy will be respected.

Where possible, one pupil will be cared for by one adult, unless there is a sound reason for having two adults present, although other staff may be aware that this is taking place on a need-to-know basis.

Parents will be involved with their child's intimate care arrangements on a regular basis; a clear account of the agreed arrangements will be recorded on the pupil's care plan.

The needs and wishes of pupils and parents will be carefully considered alongside any possible constraints; e.g. staffing and equal opportunities legislation.

Each pupil will have an assigned member of staff, usually class teacher or tutor, to act as an advocate to whom they will be able to communicate any issues or concerns that they may have about the quality of care they receive.

The Protection of Children Child Protection and Safeguarding Policies are accessible to everyone on the website.

Where appropriate, all pupils are taught personal safety skills carefully matched to their level of development and understanding.

If a member of staff has any concerns about physical changes in a pupil's presentation, e.g. marks, bruises, soreness etc. they will immediately report concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead DSL who will then ensure the pupil is seen by the welfare officer.

A clear written record, if possible of the marks bruises, soreness etc. will be completed and a referral will be made to Children's Social Care if necessary.

Parents will be asked for their consent or informed that a referral is necessary prior to it being made unless doing so is likely to place the pupil at greater risk of harm.

Refer to the Child Protection and Safeguarding

If a pupil becomes distressed or unhappy about being cared for by a particular member of staff, the matter will be looked into and outcomes recorded. Parents will be contacted at the earliest opportunity as part of this process in order to reach a resolution.

If a pupil makes an allegation against a member of staff, all necessary procedures will be followed as per the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

