



Intimate Care Policy

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Reviewed

When	First Review	Approval
11/12/2015	J Lindow	T Wilson
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Lilly Brook Pre-School Intimate Care Policy

Purpose of the Policy

At Lilly Brook Pre-School, we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children in our care. This policy outlines how intimate care is managed respectfully, safely, and consistently in accordance with statutory guidance and best practice. Intimate care routines are approached as valuable opportunities to support children's personal development, dignity, communication, independence, and self-care skills.

Scope of Intimate Care

In a preschool setting, intimate care **includes, but is not limited to:**


- Nappy changing
- Potty training
- Toileting support
- Helping children change clothes if soiled or wet
- Helping children change clothes for weather conditions
- Supporting children with personal hygiene (e.g., wiping noses, cleaning hands or faces)

Note: We do not:

- Bathe children
 - Administer intimate medicines
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Legal & Statutory Framework

This policy is underpinned by the following statutory requirements and guidance:

- EYFS Statutory Framework (2025) – Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements
 - Keeping Children Safe in Education (2024)
 - The Children Act 1989 and 2004
 - The Equality Act 2010
 - Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018, updated 2023)
-  [EYFS Framework – gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/eyfs-framework)
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Principles of Good Practice

We believe:

- Every child has the right to dignity, privacy, and respect.
- Intimate care is a learning opportunity for developing independence, trust, and communication.
- Staff support children to manage their own clothing, handwashing, and toileting skills wherever developmentally appropriate.
- Adults providing intimate care must always do so safely, supportively, and in ways that protect children and staff from misunderstandings.
- Privacy will be balanced with the need for safeguarding and appropriate supervision.
- Where developmentally appropriate, the child's consent and cooperation are sought.
- Staff will respect cultural, religious, and family preferences relating to intimate care wherever possible.

Procedures

At Registration

- Individual toileting and care needs are discussed in detail with parents/carers during the registration process.
- These discussions are reviewed regularly, particularly if a child's needs change.
- Care plans for children with additional needs will be documented and agreed with parents and relevant professionals.

During Intimate Care

- Children are always spoken to and told what is going to happen before any care is given.
- Verbal communication is used throughout the process to reassure and engage the child.
- Visual aids or objects of reference are used to support children who may benefit from them.
- Children are encouraged to be as independent as possible during toileting and changing routines.



- Staff wear appropriate personal protective equipment (gloves, aprons) and or follow hygiene and infection control procedures such as washing hands before and after each nappy change.
 - Soiled clothes are securely bagged and returned to parents.
 - Changing areas are cleaned after use, and hands are washed before and after care.
 - We do not throw soiled pants or knickers/ underwear away. We will send it home only parents can make this decision.
 - Where possible, another member of staff will be aware intimate care is taking place.
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Staffing

- Only staff who have undergone safer recruitment procedures, including enhanced DBS checks, will undertake intimate care.
 - Where possible, the child's key person will provide care to maintain consistency.
 - All intimate care takes place in a safe, appropriate area that promotes both privacy and supervision
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Safeguarding Children & Staff

- If a child becomes distressed or unhappy during an intimate care episode, this is noted and discussed with the child's parent/carer.
 - Any marks, disclosures, or concerns noticed during care are recorded and reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) immediately.
 - All staff follow the Lilly Brook Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.
 - Patterns or repeated concerns will be discussed with parents and, where necessary, the DSL.
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Record Keeping

- Intimate care routines (nappy changes, accidents, etc.) are recorded using standard procedures.
 - Records are shared with parents as needed and securely stored.
 - Patterns, concerns, or repeated incidents are escalated and monitored.
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Children with Additional Needs



- Staff work closely with parents/carers to understand any support or adaptations required.
 - Visual routines, objects of reference, and communication tools help children anticipate and understand care routines.
 - Care plans will be documented and agreed with parents and relevant professionals.
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Working with Parents

- We value working in partnership with parents. They are informed of routines and can share their child's preferences.
 - Open communication is encouraged about any concerns or changes to the child's care needs.
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Monitoring and Review

- This policy is reviewed regularly or in response to changes in legislation, practice, or individual child needs.
- The Manager/DSL is responsible for ensuring implementation and review.
- Staff receive training and supervision to ensure intimate care is carried out in accordance with best practice.