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Agreed by Health and Safety Committee

Date: 20/03/24

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Signature:



## Intimate Care Policy – February 2024

In intimate care situations, the child's safety, dignity and privacy are of paramount importance. Children requiring intimate care will be treated respectfully at all times.

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

Nursery staff who provide intimate care do so in a professional manner. Staff are aware of safeguarding issues and 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.

### Best practice

When intimate care is given, the member of staff explains fully each task that is carried out and the reasons for it. Staff encourage children to do as much for themselves as they can. Staff should follow the procedures set out in the Nappy Changing Policy.

### Child Protection

If a member of staff is concerned about any physical changes to a child, such as marks, bruises, soreness etc, they should inform the Senior Designated Person immediately.

### Partnership with parents

At the home visit we will discuss toileting with parents in terms of:

- The nature of the difficulties and possible causes.
- How parents manage the situation at home.
- Preferred methods of intimate care.
- How we are going to develop a consistent approach to intimate care at home and in the nursery.