

## Intimate Care

At Coin Street Nursery we believe that all children need contact with familiar, consistent carers to ensure they can grow and develop socially and emotionally. At times children need to be cuddled, encouraged, held and offered physical reassurance.

Intimate care routines are essential throughout the day to meet children's basic needs. This includes nappy changing, supporting children with toileting, changing clothes, giving first aid and specialist medical support, where required.

In order to maintain the child's privacy, we will carry out most of these actions on a 1:1 basis. Wherever possible, child's key person will carry out this care, except for first aid treatment which must be carried out by a qualified first aider.

Our aim is to ensure the safety and welfare of children during intimate care routines and safeguard them against any potential harm; as well as ensuring the staff member involved is fully supported and able to perform their duties safely and confidently.

To achieve this aim we:

- We use the key person system to promote consistent and caring relationships and ensure all parents understand how this works
- Ensure all staff who undertake intimate care routines have suitable enhanced DBS checks
- Train all staff in the appropriate methods for intimate care routines and arrange specialist training if required
- Ensure children are afforded privacy during intimate care routines whilst balancing this with the need to safeguard children and staff. No nappies will be changed, nor intimate routines carried out, behind closed doors
- Ensure that staff always tell others they are carrying out nappy changes or intimate care
- Conduct thorough inductions for all new staff to ensure they are fully aware of all nursery procedures relating to intimate care routines
- Follow up procedures through supervision meetings and appraisals to identify any areas for development or further training
- Work closely with parent/carer if a child requires specific support. The nursery will arrange a meeting with the parent/carer to ensure that we can fully and meet their child's individual needs
- We have a robust safeguarding policy in place and all staff have regular updating on safeguarding/child protection and how to protect children from harm.
- Operating a whistleblowing policy to help staff raise any concerns about their peers or managers; and helping staff develop confidence in raising worries as they arise in order to safeguard the children in the nursery

- Conduct working practice observations on all aspects of nursery operations to ensure that procedures are working in practice and all children are supported fully by the staff. This includes intimate care routines
- Conduct regular risk assessments on all aspects of the nursery operation including intimate care and reviewing the safeguards in place. The nursery has assessed all the risks relating to intimate care routines and has placed appropriate safeguards in place to ensure the safety of all involved.

If any parent or member of staff has concerns or questions about intimate care procedures or individual routines, please see the manager at the earliest opportunity.

<b>This policy was adopted on</b>	<b>Signed on behalf of the nursery</b>	<b>Date for review</b>
<i>January 2022</i>	<i>Jane Christofi</i>	<i>January 2023</i>