

CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Intimate Care Policy

Date of Policy:	September 2026
Date of Review:	September 2027
Responsible for Policy:	Local Governing Body
Policy Approved:	September 2026

Purpose

At Christ the King Catholic Primary School, we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children. We recognise that some pupils may require assistance with intimate care because of their age, developmental stage, medical needs, disability, special educational needs, accident, illness or emotional needs.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Safeguard the rights, dignity and wellbeing of pupils.
- Provide guidance and protection for staff involved in intimate care.
- Ensure that intimate care is delivered consistently and respectfully.
- Promote partnership working between school, parents/carers and external agencies.
- Ensure compliance with safeguarding legislation and guidance.

This policy reflects our mission statement:

"Learning, Growing, Praying Together with Christ our King."

Definition of Intimate Care

Intimate care refers to any care that involves direct or indirect contact with, or exposure of, private parts of the body.

Examples include:

- Assisting with toileting.
- Changing nappies, continence pads or soiled clothing.
- Supporting intimate hygiene and personal cleanliness.
- Assisting with dressing or undressing.
- Providing support relating to menstrual care.

- Supporting pupils with medical or physical needs that require intimate assistance.

Intimate care must always be carried out in a way that is safe, respectful and child-centred.

Aims

We aim to ensure that:

- Every child is treated with dignity and respect.
- Children's privacy is protected at all times.
- Safeguarding arrangements are embedded throughout all intimate care practices.
- Pupils are encouraged to become as independent as possible.
- Parents and carers are fully involved where ongoing support is required.
- Staff are appropriately trained and supported.
- Any concerns relating to safeguarding are reported immediately.

Catholic Ethos

As a Catholic school, we believe every child is uniquely created in the image and likeness of God.

When providing intimate care, all staff will demonstrate:

- Compassion
- Respect
- Dignity
- Patience
- Sensitivity
- Understanding

The dignity of the child will always be paramount.

Legislation and Guidance

This policy should be read alongside:

- **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026.**
- **Working Together to Safeguard Children.**
- **Children and Families Act 2014.**
- **Equality Act 2010.**
- **SEND Code of Practice.**
- **Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions at School.**
- **NSPCC Intimate Care Guidance.**
- Christ the King Catholic Primary School Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

Principles of Good Practice

All intimate care will be provided according to the following principles:

Child-Centred Practice

The wishes and feelings of the child will be considered at all times.

Dignity and Respect

Staff will:

- Explain what they are doing.
- Gain the child's agreement where appropriate.
- Encourage independence.
- Respect privacy.

Safety

Suitable safeguarding measures will always be followed.

Communication

Staff will communicate calmly, clearly and appropriately throughout the process.

Partnership

Parents and carers will be consulted whenever ongoing support is required

Responsibilities

The Governing Body

The Governing Body will:

- Review this policy annually.
- Ensure appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place.
- Monitor implementation.

Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- Ensure appropriate procedures are followed.
- Ensure staff receive suitable training.
- Monitor the implementation of individual care plans.
- Ensure safeguarding concerns are reported and managed effectively.

Staff

Staff involved in intimate care will:

- Follow this policy.
- Maintain professional boundaries.
- Respect pupil dignity.
- Record intimate care where required.
- Report safeguarding concerns immediately.
- Promote pupil independence wherever possible.

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers will:

- Provide relevant information regarding their child's needs.
- Work with the school to develop individual care plans.
- Supply appropriate spare clothing and personal care items.

Intimate Care Plans

Where a pupil requires regular support, an Individual Intimate Care Plan will be developed.

The plan should include:

- Details of the child's needs.
- Level of support required.
- Agreed procedures.
- Preferred methods of communication.
- Staffing arrangements.
- Risk assessments where required.
- Emergency procedures.

Plans will be reviewed at least annually or sooner if circumstances change.

Intimate Care Procedures

Staff will:

1. Explain the support being provided.
2. Encourage as much independence as possible.
3. Respect the child's privacy.
4. Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
5. Dispose of waste safely and hygienically.
6. Wash hands thoroughly following care procedures.
7. Record the incident where appropriate.

Wherever possible:

- The child will be assisted by familiar staff.
- Privacy will be maintained.
- Interruptions will be avoided.

Safeguarding

Providing intimate care places adults and children in a potentially vulnerable situation.

The school recognises that intimate care can:

- Present opportunities for safeguarding concerns to emerge.
- Lead to accidental injury.
- Create vulnerability for both children and staff.

All staff must therefore:

- Report any safeguarding concerns immediately to the DSL.
- Record unusual marks, bruises, injuries or behavioural changes.
- Listen and respond appropriately if a child makes a disclosure.
- Follow school safeguarding procedures without delay.

Staff should never ignore concerns arising during intimate care.

Protecting Children

The following safeguards will be applied:

- Staff involved in intimate care will have appropriate DBS clearance.
- Children will be treated respectfully at all times.
- Care will take place in an agreed location.
- The child will be informed of each stage of the process.
- Records will be maintained where appropriate.

Where a child is known to make allegations or where risk assessments indicate additional vulnerability, the school may implement additional safeguarding measures.

Protecting Staff

Staff must:

- Follow agreed procedures.
- Maintain professional boundaries.
- Report any concerns immediately.
- Record incidents accurately.

Staff should never:

- Use intimate care as a punishment.
- Engage in unnecessary physical contact.
- Take photographs.
- Permit unauthorised adults into intimate care areas.

Children with SEND or Medical Needs

The school recognises its duties under the Equality Act 2010 and SEND legislation.

Reasonable adjustments will be made to support pupils who require intimate care due to:

- Disability.
- Special educational needs.
- Medical conditions.
- Temporary injury.

Individual plans and risk assessments will be developed where appropriate.

Toileting Accidents

The school understands that accidents happen and pupils will never be shamed, embarrassed or punished for accidents.

When accidents occur:

- The child will be reassured.
- Appropriate assistance will be provided.
- Dignity and privacy will be maintained.
- Parents may be informed where appropriate.

Record Keeping

A written record should be maintained for:

- Regular intimate care.
- Significant incidents.

- Concerns arising during intimate care.
- Changes to established arrangements.

Records should include:

- Date.
- Time.
- Staff involved.
- Nature of support provided.
- Any concerns identified.

Records will be stored in accordance with GDPR and safeguarding procedures.

Training

Relevant staff will receive training appropriate to their role.

Training may include:

- Safeguarding and child protection.
- KCSIE updates.
- Intimate care procedures.
- Manual handling.
- Infection control.
- Medical needs training where required.

Staff will receive regular safeguarding updates in line with KCSIE 2026 expectations.

[\[gov.uk\]](#), [\[assets.pub...ice.gov.uk\]](#)

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be:

- Reviewed annually.
- Monitored by the Headteacher and DSL.
- Updated in response to changes in legislation or safeguarding guidance.

Linked Policies

This policy should be read alongside:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Medical Needs Policy
- SEND Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Attendance Policy

Review History

Issue	Description	Date
01	Policy Created	September 2026
02	Review Due	September 2027