



Intimate Care Policy

Purpose of the Policy

This policy outlines our approach to intimate care within our setting. We do not provide intimate care (such as toileting assistance or changing clothes) but ensure that children are supported in a way that respects their privacy, dignity, and independence. **As of March 2025, we will no longer be admitting nursery-aged children.**

1. Definition of Intimate Care

Intimate care refers to any personal care tasks of an intimate nature, such as:

- Changing nappies or underwear.
- Wiping or cleaning a child after using the toilet.
- Assistance with dressing or undressing.
- Washing or bathing a child.

Since we do not provide these services, children will be encouraged and guided to manage their personal hygiene independently.

2. Supporting Children with Personal Hygiene

- Children will be given clear instructions on how to clean themselves after toileting.
- Staff will provide verbal guidance if required but will not physically assist.
- Staff will ensure that privacy and dignity are maintained at all times.
- If a child requires assistance due to a medical or developmental need, this must be discussed with parents in advance, and an individual care plan may be required.

3. Handling Soiled Clothing

- If a child soils their clothes, parents/carers will be contacted to bring clean clothing and assist their child.
- Soiled clothing will be placed in a sealed bag and given to parents at collection time.

- If necessary, the child will be supported to change independently in a private area, with staff supervision outside the room if required.

4. Safeguarding & Dignity

- At no time will a staff member physically clean a child unless there is a medical emergency requiring intervention.
- All interactions will prioritise the child's dignity and independence.
- If a child is in distress, staff will offer comfort, reassurance, and verbal guidance while ensuring their privacy.

5. Parental Responsibility

- Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring children arrive in appropriate, clean clothing and with any necessary supplies (e.g., spare clothes if needed).
- If a child has frequent accidents, parents will be encouraged to discuss strategies for toilet training support at home.

6. Exceptions for Medical or Additional Needs

- If a child has a medical condition or special educational needs that require intimate care assistance, a personal care plan will be agreed upon with parents in advance.
- Any such arrangements will be reviewed regularly and documented appropriately.

7. Staff Training & Awareness

- All staff receive safeguarding training to ensure children's privacy, dignity, and rights are respected.
- If any concerns arise regarding a child's well-being during toileting, staff must report them immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

8. Review & Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it meets best practice standards and the needs of our setting.

Last Reviewed: 12.02.2025

Next Review Due: 12.02.2026

Signed: Jon Wiltshire

Role: Director Art Camp UK