

The AfterSchool Club Ltd

Intimate Care

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 the washing, touching or carrying out a procedure to intimate personal areas and is associated with bodily functions and personal hygiene, including, toileting, washing, dressing, and menstrual care.

Staff at The AfterSchool Club who provide intimate care will do so in a professional manner. Staff are aware of safeguarding issues and will have relevant training. No child should suffer distress or pain as a result of receiving intimate care.

Staff will work in partnership with parents or carers to provide care appropriate to the needs of the individual child and together will produce a care plan. The care plan will set out:

- What care is required
- Number of staff needed to carry out the task
- Additional equipment required
- Child's preferred means of communication (eg verbal, visual)
- Child's level of ability – what tasks they are able to carry out by themselves

Best practice

When intimate care is given, the member of staff will explain fully each task that is carried out, and the reasons for it. Staff will encourage children to do as much for themselves as they can.

Two members of staff will be in attendance at all times.

We have policies in place that promote safe recruitment, as well as having sound staff supervision, safeguarding and intimate care procedures.

Protecting children

Staff are familiar with the Local Safeguarding Children Board booklet *Recognising The Signs Of Child Abuse* and the *What To Do If You're Worried A Child Is Being Abused* flowchart.

If a member of staff is concerned about any physical changes to a child, such as marks, bruises, soreness etc, they will inform the manager or designated CPO (child protection officer) immediately. The **Safeguarding Children** policy will then be implemented.

Should a child become unhappy about being cared for by particular member of staff, the manager will look into the situation and record any findings. These will be discussed with the child's parents or carers in order to resolve the problem. If necessary the manager will seek advice from outside agencies.

If a child makes an allegation against a member of staff, the procedure set out in the **Safeguarding Children** policy will be followed.

Dealing with blood and body fluids

Blood, vomit, urine and faeces will be cleaned up immediately and disposed of safely by double bagging the waste and removing it from the premises. When they are dealing with body fluids, staff will wear personal protective clothing (disposable plastic gloves) and will wash themselves thoroughly afterwards. Soiled children's clothing will be bagged to go home – staff will not rinse it. Children will be kept away from the affected area until the incident has been dealt with fully.

Staff at The AfterSchool Club will maintain high standards of personal hygiene, and will take all practicable steps to prevent and control the spread of infection.

This policy was adopted by: The AfterSchool Club	Date: September 2019
To be reviewed: September 2020	Signed: