

# Intimate Care for your Child

---

## Definition of Intimate Care

Intimate care may be defined as any activity required to meet the personal care needs of each very young child 2-5 years on our Early Years programme, which they are unable to do for themselves. Parents have a responsibility to advise the British Council of any special intimate care needs of their child, and the British Council has a responsibility to work in partnership with children and parents.

Intimate care can include:

- washing
- toileting
- changing clothes in case of an accident
- supervision of a child involved in intimate self-care

## Principles of Intimate Care

The following are the principles upon which our policy is based:

- Every child has the right to be safe.
- Every child has the right to personal privacy.
- Every child has the right to be valued as an individual.
- Every child has the right to be treated with dignity and respect.
- Every child has the right to be involved and consulted in their own intimate care to the best of their abilities.
- Every child has the right to express their views on their own intimate care and to have such views taken into account.
- Every child has the right to have levels of intimate care that are as consistent as possible.

## Intimate Care Procedures

All children have the right to be safe and to be treated with dignity and respect. Our procedures are designed to safeguard Early Years children and members of staff.

- We will encourage a child's independence as far as possible in his/her intimate care.
- We will treat every child with dignity and respect and ensure privacy appropriate to the child's age and situation.
- Careful consideration will be given to individual situations to determine how many members of staff should be present during intimate care procedures. Generally, one pupil will be cared for by one member of staff unless there is a good reason for having more adults present, for example, the activity requires two persons for the greater comfort or safety of the child or the child prefers two adults.
- We will make sure our practice in intimate care is consistent.
- Members of staff will only carry out care activities they understand and feel competent and confident to carry out.

- In the case of a toilet ‘accident’) then parents/guardians will be informed the same day.
- If a member of staff observes any unusual markings, bruising or swelling on the child’s body, including the genital area, they will report this immediately to the designated Safeguarding and Child Protection Manager in accordance with the British Council’s Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.
- If a child becomes distressed or unhappy during intimate care, the member of staff will reassure the child, ensure their safety and report the incident immediately to the Designated Safeguarding and Child Protection Manager.
- Parents/guardians will be informed about any concerns.

---

**Early Years Intimate Care Agreement – Please sign and return to the Teacher**

\*Before signing please read the Intimate Care Procedure to ensure you are fully informed.

Permission for British Council to provide Intimate Care. Examples include but are not limited to washing, toileting and dressing.

Child’s family name:

Child’s first name(s):

Male/Female:

Date of birth:

Parent/Carer/Guardian family name:

Parent/Carer/Guardian first name:

Address:

I have read the Intimate Care Procedure and am aware of British Council’s approach to intimate care.

I give permission to the centre to provide appropriate intimate care to my child.

I will advise the Teaching Centre of any special arrangement or medical issues which impact on the intimate care of my child.

Name .....

Signature .....

Relationship to child.....

Date .....