

Judith Kerr Intimate Care Policy

This document sets out the intimate care policy for Judith Kerr Primary School (the School) for the year 2021/2022. The School recognises that all children have different rates of development and differing needs during their time at school. Most children achieve continence before starting full-time school.

We are aware, that with the creation of our nursery, and longer term medical needs, there are more children in mainstream educational establishments who are not fully independent in toileting. Some children remain dependent on long term support for personal care, while other progress slowly towards independence. However, ultimately children with toileting needs who receive support and understanding from familiar adults at school are more likely to achieve their full potential throughout the day.

We are committed to ensuring that all pupils are able to access the whole curriculum and are able to be integrated in all aspects of school life, this includes attending to the continence needs of our pupils where necessary.

Aims

All children have the right to be safe, to be treated with dignity and courtesy, dignity and respect and to be able to access all aspects of the educational curriculum and the School has produced this policy to ensure that this is the case.

This policy aims to:

- To ensure that pupils with continence difficulties are not discriminated against in line with the Equalities Act 2010
- To provide help and support to pupils in becoming fully independent in personal hygiene
- To treat continence issues sensitively so as to maintain the self-esteem of the child
- Work with parents in delivering a suitable care plan where necessary
- To ensure that staff dealing with continence issues work within guidelines that protect themselves and the pupils involved as laid out in the following policies: [Health and Safety Policy](#)
[Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy](#)

Pupils' Needs

The staff work hard to build effective relationships with the parents and carers of the children attending JKPS. Any particular needs that a child may have will be dealt with sensitively and appropriately, working with parents/carers to ensure that each child can access the curriculum. Any child who has personal care or continence needs will be attended to in an area familiar to them yet ensuring privacy throughout the intimate care process. Parents will only be contacted in extreme cases where soiling is severe and/or linked to illness e.g., sickness and diarrhoea, or when a child refuses to let a member of staff help change their clothing

Care Plans

Where a pupil has particular needs (e.g., wearing incontinent supports regularly, or has continence difficulties which are more frequent than the odd 'accident'), staff will work with parents/carers (and health visitors/school nurse, if appropriate) to set out a care plan to ensure that the child is able to attend daily.

The written care plan (Appendix A) will include:

- Key adults to support with intimate care
- What resources and equipment will be used (cleansing agents used or cream to be applied?) and clarification of who is responsible (parent or school) for the provision of the resources and equipment.
- What infection control measures are in place
- Arrangements for school trips and outings
- Care plan review arrangements

Roles and Responsibilities

The Parent will:

- provide the school with spare incontinences resources, cleansing agents and a change of clothing
- understand and agree the procedures that will be followed when their child is changed at school –including the use of any cleanser or wipes
- agree to inform the school should the child have any marks/rash or if any additional needs arise
- agree to review arrangements should this be necessary

The School will:

- agree to change the child during a single session should the child soil themselves or become wet
- agree to monitor the number of times the child is changed in order to identify progress made, should this be necessary
- agree to report should the child be distressed, or if marks/rashes are seen and report this to a DSL where necessary
- agree to review arrangements should this be necessary
- Agree that when an intimate care issue occurs, where appropriate, children will be encouraged to independently engage with the process

This kind of agreement should help to avoid misunderstandings that might otherwise arise, and help parents feel confident that the school is taking a holistic view of the child's needs. Should a child with complex continence needs be admitted, the school will consider the possibility of special circumstances and/or provision being made. In such circumstances, an appropriate health care professional (School Nurse or Family Health Visitor) will be closely involved in forward planning.

Personal Care Procedures

The staff at JKPS will follow agreed procedures (see Appendix C) when attending to the care or continence needs of any pupil within the setting, whether this be a child with a care plan agreement or a child who has had an occasional 'accident'.

Health and Safety Procedures

When dealing with personal care and continence issues, staff will follow agreed health and safety procedures (see Appendix D) to protect both the child and the member of staff.

Child Protection

The normal process of changing continence or wet/soiled clothes should not raise child protection concerns, and there are no regulations that indicate that a second member of staff must be available to supervise the changing process to ensure that abuse does not take place. Few schools will have the staffing resources to provide two members of staff for changing and DBS checks are carried out to ensure the safety of children with staff employed in our school. In some cases – where soiling is large, we may have a second adult support with intimate care to ensure that the child does not miss significant learning time. If there is known risk of false allegation by a child, then two staff members as opposed to one will change the child.

Only members of staff that are trained in intimate care, employed by Anthem Trust and are DBS checked will support children with intimate care needs. Wherever possible, the same member of staff will be supporting the named children.

Monitoring and Review

- The SENCo will take responsibility for monitoring that agreed procedures are being followed and are meeting the needs of children and families.
- It is the SENCo's responsibility to ensure that all practitioners follow the school policy.
- Any concerns that staff have about child protection issues will be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and subsequently the Head Teacher for further referral if appropriate.
- This policy runs alongside other school policies, particularly Child Protection and Safeguarding Children Policy and Special Educational Needs Policy.

Monitoring of this policy

This policy will be reviewed and approved by Anthem every year.

Appendix A

Care Plan	
Name of child:	
Name of key adults to support with intimate care:	
What resources and equipment will be used:	
Who will provide the resources and equipment that will be used:	
Special arrangements for trips/ outings:	
When will the plan be reviewed:	
Review comments:	
<p>If the child is unduly distressed, a member of staff will contact the parent/carer.</p> <p>*If the above-named members of staff are not available due to illness or staff training, then another person, familiar to the child will attend to the child's needs.</p>	
SENCO/ Inclusion Leader approval:	
Parents/carers:	
Date:	

Appendix B

Personal Care Procedures

Staff at JKPS will follow agreed procedures:

- Change the child's clothing as appropriate, as soon as possible
- Use appropriate cleaning products and adhere to health and safety procedures (see Appendix D)
- Report any marks or rashes to parents and DSL and Head Teacher if appropriate.
- Inform parent/carer if a continuous continence issue has arisen
- Contact a parent/carer only where soiling is severe and/or linked to illness e.g. sickness and diarrhoea, or when a child refuses to let a member of staff help change their clothing.

Appendix C

Health and Safety Procedures

When dealing with personal care and continence issues, staff will follow agreed health and safety procedures:

- Staff to wear disposable gloves whilst dealing with any intimate care
- Staff to use cleansing agents agreed with parents
- Soiled continence product used to be wrapped in a disposable bag
- Changing area to be cleaned after use if needed
- Hot water and liquid soap available to wash hands as soon as the task is completed
- Paper towels available for drying hands.