

## **STAMPERS PRE-SCHOOL**

### **Personal and Intimate Care Policy (revised 30.3.16)**

#### **Statement of intent**

The Pre-School believes that the intimate care of children cannot be separated from other aspects of their learning and development. We do not discriminate against children who have not reached a stage where they can manage their own personal hygiene and as such welcome all children to participate in the Pre-School, and provide appropriate support for each on an individual basis.

#### **Aim**

- To safeguard the rights and promote the welfare of children and young people.
- To provide guidance and reassurance to staff whose contracts include intimate care.
- To assure parents and carers that staff are knowledgeable about personal care and that their individual concerns are taken into account.
- To remove barriers to learning and participation, protect from discrimination, to ensure inclusion for all children as pupils.

'**Intimate Care**' can be defined as care tasks of an intimate nature, associated with bodily functions, bodily products and personal hygiene, which demand direct or indirect contact with, or exposure of, the sexual parts of the body. Help may also be required with changing colostomy or ileostomy bags, managing catheters, stomas or other appliances. In some cases, it may be necessary to administer rectal medication on an emergency basis.

'**Personal Care**' generally carries more positive perceptions than intimate care.

Although it may often involve touching another person, the nature of this touching is more socially acceptable, as it is less intimate and usually has the function of helping with personal presentation and hence is regarded as social functioning.

These tasks do not invade conventional personal, private or social space to the same extent as intimate care and are certainly more valued as they can lead to positive social outcomes for people.

Children may require help with eating, drinking, washing, dressing and toileting.

## **Method**

We work with parents/carers and children to establish a preferred procedure for supporting the children in our care with their personal and intimate care. Where these procedures may require specialist training we seek out training for the staff who will be involved in a child's care, ensuring that the child's keyperson and at least one other member of staff accesses this training.

Children are always asked by the member of staff caring for them, for permission to assist them, and children who want to perform their own care are encouraged to do so with adult support when appropriate.

Children will be cared for with dignity and respect for their privacy. Either of the toilet areas can be used, as can the entrance hall way when not in use depending on the level of privacy and space required in the individual case. A changing area with a curtain, and a potty are available.

Parents/carers are asked to provide at least one change of clothing - **more** if a child is toilet-training.

Parents/carers are asked to provide any vocabulary they use with their children, or that their children use, for their sexual body-parts - see registration form.

Staff members let other staff know that they are carrying out intimate care.

### **Procedure to follow when a child attends Stampers in a nappy:**

- Follow any preferred guidelines given by parent/carers - keyworker to liaise
- Change nappy as soon as possible if the need arises
- Check the nappy at 11am, 12.45pm and 2.30pm and change if necessary.
- Follow hygiene guidelines
- Note down on messages sheet in register if you have changed a nappy, or a child's clothing, so that nappy changes can be reported to parents/carers