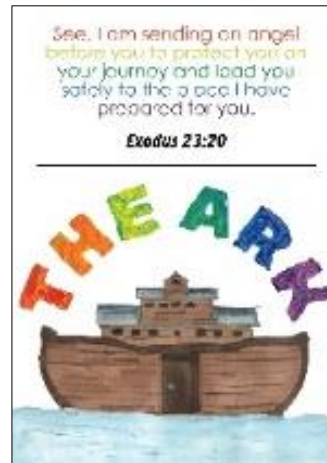


St Michael's CE (A)



Primary School

School Intimate Care Policy

The Lord says, 'For I know the plans for you...plans to give you hope and a future.' Jeremiah 29 verse 11

Date Approved: Thursday 12th September 2024

Review date: September 2026

Signed: *Sarah Douglas* (Chair of Governors)

St Michael's C.E(A) Primary school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all our children and expects our staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

School Ethos and Context

In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do. The underpinning principles are underpinned by the vision and core values of the school, which are distinctly Christian:

The Lord says, 'For I know the plans I have for you plans to give you hope and a future.' Jeremiah 29 verse 11

As an inclusive Christian school, St Michael's Church of England (Aided) Primary School values everyone as a child of God and rejoices in its diversity. Our vision is to provide a happy, loving, and nurturing environment where all have the confidence to make outstanding progress and so expand and fulfil their hopes and aspirations. Our inspiring, enriched curriculum promotes a thirst for knowledge and develops wisdom.

MOTTO - Learning to Love – Loving to Learn

'I give you a new command; love each other. You must love each other as I have loved you.' John 13 v 34

We believe the 4 key values which characterise our school are

FAITH

The love of God revealed in Jesus Christ shapes the life of our school. We value and respect the diverse cultures and faiths represented by our school and wider community. We encourage pupils to share their experiences of faith and culture for the benefit of all.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.' John 3 verse 16



JOY

We rejoice in our rich and vibrant community. We are committed to a creative, high-quality curriculum which is broad and balanced and embraces pupils' diverse backgrounds, interests and abilities.

'Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!' Philippians 4 verse 4



HOPE

The hope revealed through Jesus Christ inspires us, as we equip pupils with the skills, passion and resilience, to achieve goals, giving them confidence as they journey through life.

'But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you.' Psalm 39 verse 7



LOVE

We encourage our pupils to love one another as God loves us. By practising forgiveness and reconciliation, we enable all to live well together and flourish. All at St Michael's play a prominent role in understanding their responsibility to care for the world we share. ***'Do everything in love.' 1 Corinthians 16 verse 14***



1. Aims

- This policy aims to ensure that:
- Intimate care is carried out properly by staff, in line with any agreed plans
- The dignity, rights and wellbeing of every child are safeguarded
- Pupils who require intimate care are not discriminated against, in line with the Equality Act 2010
- Parents/carers are assured that staff are knowledgeable about intimate care and that the needs of their child are taken into account
- Staff carrying out intimate care work do so within guidelines (i.e. health and safety, manual handling, safeguarding protocols awareness) that protect themselves and the pupils involved

Intimate care refers to any care that involves toileting, washing, changing, touching or carrying out an invasive procedure to children's intimate personal areas.

2. Legislation and statutory guidance

This policy complies with [statutory safeguarding guidance](#).

3. Role of parents/carers

3.1 Seeking parental permission

For children who need routine or occasional intimate care (e.g. for toileting or toileting accidents), parents/carers will be asked to sign a consent form.

For children whose needs are more complex or who need particular support outside of what's covered in the permission form (if used), an intimate care plan will be created in discussion with parents/carers (see section 3.2 below).

Where there isn't an intimate care plan or parental consent for routine care in place, parental permission will be sought before performing any intimate care procedure.

If the school is unable to get in touch with parents/carers and an intimate care procedure urgently needs to be carried out, the procedure will be carried out to ensure the child is comfortable, and the school will inform parents/carers afterwards.

3.2 Creating an intimate care plan

Where an intimate care plan is required, it will be agreed in discussion between the school, parents/carers, the child (where possible) and any relevant health professionals.

The school will work with parents/carers and take their preferences on board to make the process of intimate care as comfortable as possible, dealing with needs sensitively and appropriately.

Subject to their age and understanding, the preferences of the child will also be taken into account. If there's doubt whether the child is able to make an informed choice, their parents/carers will be consulted.

The plan will be reviewed twice a year, even if no changes are necessary, and updated regularly, as well as whenever there are changes to a pupil's needs.

See appendix 1 for a blank template plan to see what this will cover.

3.3 Sharing information

The school will share information with parents/carers as needed to ensure a consistent approach. It will expect parents/carers to also share relevant information regarding any intimate matters as needed.

4. Role of staff

4.1 Which staff will be responsible

Any roles who may carry out intimate care will have this set out in their job description.

No other staff members can be required to provide intimate care.

All staff at the school who carry out intimate care will have been subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) with a barred list check before appointment, as well as other checks on their employment history.

4.2 How staff will be trained

Staff will receive:

- Training in the specific types of intimate care they undertake
- Regular safeguarding training
- If necessary, manual handling training that enables them to remain safe and for the pupil to have as much participation as possible

They will be familiar with:

- The control measures set out in risk assessments carried out by the school
- Hygiene and health and safety procedures

They will also be encouraged to seek further advice as needed.

5. Intimate care procedures

5.1 How procedures will happen

There will always be two members of staff present and all intimate care procedures will take place in the Accessibility Toilet (in the main school) or the Accessibility Toilet (in the Ark).

Although, it is best practice from a health and safety, and safeguarding perspective, to have 2 members of staff present, in an emergency a designated member of staff may change a child but this must be documented immediately after the event on the Intimate Care template and CPOMS.

It is fine for male members of staff to change female pupils, as long as they have an enhanced DBS with a barred list check.

For pupils needing routine intimate care, the school expects parents/carers to provide, when necessary, a good stock (at least a week's worth in advance) of necessary resources, such as nappies, underwear and/or a spare set of clothing.

Any soiled clothing will be contained securely, clearly labelled and discreetly returned to parents/carers at the end of the day.

5.2 Concerns about safeguarding

If a member of staff carrying out intimate care has concerns about physical changes in a child's appearance (e.g. marks, bruises, soreness), they will report this using the school's safeguarding procedures.

If a child is hurt accidentally or there is an issue when carrying out the procedure, the staff member will report the incident immediately to the DSL.

If a child makes an allegation against a member of staff, the responsibility for intimate care of that child will be given to another member of staff as quickly as possible and the allegation will be investigated according to the school's safeguarding procedures.

6. Links with other policies

This policy links to the following policies and procedures:

- Accessibility plan
- Child protection and safeguarding
- Health and safety
- SEND
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions

Appendix 1: template intimate care plan

PARENTS/CARERS	
Name of child	
Type of intimate care needed	
How often care will be given	
What training staff will be given	
Where care will take place	
What resources and equipment will be used, and who will provide them	
How procedures will differ if taking place on a trip or outing	
Name of senior member of staff responsible for ensuring care is carried out according to the intimate care plan	
Name of parent or carer	
Relationship to child	
Signature of parent or carer	
Date	
CHILD	
How many members of staff would you like to help?	
Do you mind having a chat when you are being changed or washed?	
Signature of child	
Date	

This plan will be reviewed twice a year.

Next review date:

To be reviewed by:

Appendix 2: template parent/carer consent form

PERMISSION FOR SCHOOL TO PROVIDE INTIMATE CARE	
Name of child	
Date of birth	
Name of parent/carer	
Address and contact details	
I give permission for the school to provide appropriate intimate care to my child (e.g. changing soiled clothing, washing and toileting)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I will advise the school of anything that may affect my child's personal care (e.g. if medication changes or if my child has an infection)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I understand the procedures that will be carried out and will contact the school immediately if I have any concerns	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>I do not give consent for my child to be given intimate care (e.g. to be washed and changed if they have a toileting accident).</p> <p>Instead, the school will contact me or my emergency contact and I will organise for my child to be given intimate care (e.g. be washed and changed).</p> <p>I understand that if the school cannot reach me or my emergency contact, if my child needs urgent intimate care, staff will need to provide this for my child, following the school's intimate care policy, to make them comfortable and remove barriers to learning.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent/carer signature	
Name of parent/carer	
Relationship to child	
Date	