

Intimate Care

At Raised In we support the evidence in our working practice that all children need contact with familiar, consistent carers to ensure they grow and develop well both socially and emotionally. At times children need to be encouraged, held and offered physical reassurance.

Intimate care routines are essential throughout the day to meet children's basic needs. This may include nappy changing, supporting children with toileting, changing clothes, giving first aid treatment and specialist medical support, where required.

To maintain the child's privacy, we carry out the majority of these actions on a one-to-one basis, wherever possible, by the child's key people in the room except for first aid treatment which must be carried out by a qualified first aider.

We seek to ensure the safety and welfare of children during intimate care routines and safeguard them against any potential harm as well as ensuring the team members involved are fully supported and able to perform their duties safely and confidently. We aim to support all parties through the following actions:

- Promoting consistent and caring relationships through the Key Person system in the nursery and ensuring all parents understand how this works.
- Ensuring all Raised In team members undertaking intimate care routines have suitable enhanced DBS checks.
- Training all of the team in the appropriate methods for intimate care routines and arranging specialist training where required, i.e. first aid training, and specialist medical support.
- Ensuring children have enough privacy during intimate care routines whilst balancing this with the need to safeguard children and the team. No nappies will be changed or intimate routines will take place behind closed doors.
- Conducting thorough inductions for all new team members to ensure they are fully aware of all nursery procedures relating to intimate care routines.
- Following up procedures through supervision meetings and appraisals to identify any areas for development or further training.
- Working closely with parents if a child requires specific support, the nursery will arrange a meeting with the parent to find out all the relevant information to enable the team to care for the child fully and meet their individual needs.

- Ensuring all of the team have an up-to-date understanding of safeguarding/child protection and how to protect children from harm. This will include identifying signs and symptoms of abuse and how to raise these concerns as set out in the safeguarding/child protection policy.
- Operating a whistleblowing policy to help the team raise any concerns about their peers or managers; and helping the team develop confidence in raising worries as they arise to safeguard the children in the nursery setting.
- Conducting working practice observations on all aspects of nursery operations to ensure that procedures are correctly working in practice and all children are supported fully by the team. This includes intimate care routines.
- Conduct regular risk assessments on all aspects of the nursery operations including intimate care and reviewing the safeguards in place. The nursery has assessed all the risks relating to intimate care routines and has appropriate safeguards in place to ensure the safety of all involved.

If any parent or member of the team has concerns or questions about intimate care procedures or individual routines, please see the manager at the earliest opportunity.

Signed: Nicola Brimble, Head of Nursery

Date: 15 December 2023

Review Date: December 2024

This policy links to: Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Nappy Changing Policy and Risk Assessment Policy