

Pleasant Street Primary School



Intimate Care Policy

September 2024

Pleasant Street Intimate Care Policy 2023 - 24

Pleasant Street Primary School and Nursery recognises that some children with SEND and other children's home circumstances may result in children arriving at school with under developed toilet training skills. The aim of this policy is to ensure that appropriate provision is made for such children. This policy also aims to clarify the school's position on toileting needs in children who have no SEN needs and who soil regularly within the school day.

Pleasant Street Primary School and Nursery is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We are committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for intimate care of children and young people will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times. Intimate care is defined as any care which involves washing, touching or carrying out an invasive procedure that most children and young people carry out for themselves, but which some are unable to do. We believe that children learn best when they are healthy, safe and secure, when their individual needs are met, and when they have positive relationships with the adults caring for them.

Staff will work in close partnership with parents and carers to share information and provide continuity of care. SEND and inclusion, if a child is not toilet trained because of a disability his/her right to inclusion are additionally supported by the SEN and Disability act 2001 & part 1V of the Disability Discrimination act 1995.

Toileting and the Foundation Stage Profile Curriculum guidance for the Foundation Stage is clear that the role of the adult involves supporting the child's whole development, particularly their Personal, Social and Emotional development including supporting the transition between settings. One of the Early Learning Goals for children to achieve by the end of the Foundation Stage is to "Manage their own hygiene and personal needs successfully".

Our aim is to promote the Prime Area of Physical Development – Health and Self Care and view this as a learning experience. At Pleasant Street Primary School, we value that children develop at their own rates, and in their own ways.

We use Development Matters within children's toileting throughout the Foundation stage and take into account that every child is unique and develop at differing rates. The prime areas of learning reflect the key skills and capacities all children need to develop and learn effectively, and become ready for school.

Physical Development

Birth to 3: Learn to use the toilet with help, and then independently

3 – 4: Be increasingly independent in meeting their own care needs, e.g. brushing teeth, using the toilet, washing and drying their hands thoroughly.

Reception: Further develop the skills they need to manage the school day successfully: - lining up and queuing - mealtimes - personal hygiene.

Managing Self-Early Learning Goal - Manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs, including dressing, going to the toilet and understanding the importance of healthy food choices.

Parental responsibility prior to starting at Pleasant Street Primary School and Nursery prospective parents/carers will be reminded of the school's expectation that pupils should be toilet trained before they start school. However, we appreciate that this may not always be the case for some children.

Starting at an early years setting is always an important and potentially challenging time for both children and their parents, it is also a time of growth and very rapid developmental change for all children. As with all developmental milestones in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), there is wide variation in the time at which children master the skills involved in being fully toilet trained.

For a variety of reasons children may:

- Be fully toilet trained
- Have been fully toilet trained but regressed for a little while due to the excitement and stress of starting at a setting
- May be fully toilet trained at home but have accidents in the setting, or visa versa
- May be nearly there but needs some reminders and encouragement
- Not toilet trained, but responds well to a structured toilet training process
- Be fully toilet trained but has a serious disability or learning difficulty
- May have development delays but with additional support will master these skills
- Have SEND and might require help with some or all aspects of personal care.

Intimate Care in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

Key Stage 1 - If a child accidentally soils or wets, we will encourage the child to change themselves and where necessary change them, after seeking permission from a parent/carer. We will change children for odd 'accidents' but not routinely as part of day-to-day personal care.

Key Stage 2 - Any child that soils or wets will not be changed by any member of staff. However, we will provide a private secure room (such as our separate toilet next to the welfare room) where the child may change on their own. We will supply clean clothes (to the best of our ability out of the 'spares box') and a carrier bag.

This policy will be shared during parents' induction meetings in school. If a child is not fully toilet trained before starting school, the parents/carers must inform the school. A meeting will then be arranged prior to a start date being given. The child's needs will be discussed and reasons for the child not being fully toilet trained will be recorded. Partnership working between practitioners, parents and if needed, outside agencies e.g. Health Visitors is encouraged to meet children's individual needs. Parents of children who have regular toileting accidents will be required to provide spare clothes (to be kept on their peg in the cloakroom). It is essential that parents / carers recognise they are responsible for any toileting/training routines for their child at home and school are not wholly responsible for toilet training a child. We aim for consistency between home and school. Where a parent is aware of any concerns or issues around their child's toileting routine at any age, they should discuss the issues with the school.

Staff responsibilities with children who have a special educational and/or a diagnosed medical need

The Class Teacher, Nursery Nurse, and Learning Support Assistants will help with intimate care. There is also a stock of baby wipes, plastic bags and disposable protective gloves for staff to use, which they must do. If a child soils him/herself during school time, the practitioner will:

- Remove their soiled clothes
- Clean skin (this usually includes bottom, genitalia, legs and feet)
- Dress in the child's own clothes or those provided by the school
- Double wrap soiled clothes in plastic bags and give to parents/carers to take home.

Parents/carers as part of the induction process for starting within EYFS will be required to fill in and sign the 'Permission for Pleasant Street Primary School to provide intimate care' (Appendix 1 "Intimate Care Form").

With regard to the care of children who regularly soil themselves and their participation in school trips the school recognises that day trips and residential visits enrich the learning experience for all pupils. To this end the school would undertake a risk assessment for the individual child and facilitate their participation in school visits by inviting, where possible, a parent/carer to attend the trip or by using the school welfare assistant or another suitably trained member of staff.

Staff responsibilities with Non-SEND children

In order to help the children to become aware of their bodily needs and respond to them in time, those who wish to go to the toilet are allowed to go, although they are encouraged as they progress through the school to use the toilet during break and lunch times. The school undertakes to attempt and support any training programme requested by a child's GP and/or Health visitor, the school nurse or parent. At all times the member of staff pays attention to the level of distress and comfort of the child. If the child is ill, a member of staff will telephone the parent/carer. In the event of a child being reluctant and refusing to visit the toilet the parent/carer will be contacted to discuss any underlying issues.

Our intention is that the child will never be left in soiled clothing, and as soon as the member of staff responsible for him/her is aware of the situation, she/he will clean the child or telephone the parent/carer if an intimate care permission slip has not been completed. It is intended that the child will not experience any negative disciplining, but only positive encouragement and praise for his/her endeavours to master this necessary skill. It is always our intention to avoid drawing attention to such events and positively encourage the child in his/her efforts to gain these skills. Implementation, monitoring and review of the policy is the responsibility of the Head teacher and Governors. Verbal feedback will include evaluative feedback from pupils, as well as teaching and support staff. There will be an on-going opportunity for staff to discuss with the Head teacher any issue regarding the Intimate Care policy that concerns them.

This policy will be reviewed every 12 months and consideration given to the implications for future whole school development planning.

This policy will be reviewed September 2025

Appendix 1

PERMISSION FOR PLEASANT STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL TO PROVIDE INTIMATE CARE

Pleasant Street Primary School encourages children to have completed toilet training, yet we also understand that accidents sometimes occur. We request an extra set of clothing be present at all times (to be kept on their peg in the cloakroom). Should a toileting accident occur, adults will ensure your child is clean, using the clothes that are available to them.

Childs last name	
Childs first name	
Male/Female	
Date of Birth	
Parent/Carers address	
Contact number	

I understand that; I give permission to the school to provide appropriate intimate care support to my child e.g. changing soiled clothing, washing and toileting. I will advise the Class Teacher/Head teacher of any medical complaint my child may have which affects issues of intimate care.

Name:

Signature:

Relationship to child:

Date:

Useful toilet training tips for Parents:

- https://www.eric.org.uk/Pages/Category/potty-training?gclid=EAlaIQobChMlr7TIyOur6QIVTbDtCh3jVAAb8EAAYASAAEgJ_Z_D_BwE
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/sit-your-botty-on-the-potty>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/joinin/six-strategies-to-survive-potty-training>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zdv9382>

Appendix 2 – Slip for Parents

Childs name:	
Wet/Soiled:	
Changed by:	
Date/Time:	

Childs name:	
Wet/Soiled:	
Changed by:	
Date/Time:	

Childs name:	
Wet/Soiled:	
Changed by:	
Date/Time:	