



RAINHILL HIGH SCHOOL

INTIMATE CARE





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STATUS	NON-STATUTORY
RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE	LOCAL GOVERNING BODY
APPROVAL DATE	27/11/19
RENEWAL DATE	27/11/22



SCHOOLS IN PARTNERSHIP

STEPHENSON

MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

INTRODUCTION/POLICY STATEMENT

This policy has been written using the Statutory guidance from the DFES Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions April 2014, section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014 and Local Authority Protocol Guidance December 2014.

There are an increasing number of children and young people with complex medical conditions now accessing their education in a mainstream setting. This is a positive and welcome development reflecting advances in medical technology and the inclusion agenda that agencies have adopted over recent years. However, meeting needs of children in a mainstream school setting can present considerable challenges which requires agencies to working sensitively together to the ensure the best outcome for the child can be achieved.

Intimate Care Policy

Ranhill High School is committed to ensuring that all staff who have responsibility for the intimate care of children will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times. Rainhill High School recognises that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given. No child should be treated to in a way that causes distress or pain.

Rainhill High School works with the Local Authority Protocol to ensure an appropriate balance can be struck between meeting a child's medical/care needs within a mainstream setting, whilst at the same time ensuring procedures are carried out safely and appropriately whenever reasonably practicable.

Procedure and risk assessment will form the basis of the support arrangements for pupils with those medical conditions which can require intimate care. Agreed procedures have been developed for:

- Clean Intermittent Catheterisation

What is intimate Care?

Intimate care is any care or procedure which can require help and support to intimate personal areas. This can involve supporting specific interventions for continence difficulties or for hygiene support i.e. Washing etc.

Our approach to best practice

The management of any child with any intimate care needs will be carefully planned. The child who requires intimate care will be treated with respect at all times: the child's welfare and dignity is of paramount importance.

The child will be supported to achieve the highest level of autonomy that is possible given their age and abilities. Staff will encourage each child to do as much as possible for him/her as he/she can.

Wherever possible the same child will be cared for by one adult, unless there is a sound reason for having more adults present. If more than one person is needed the reasons will be detailed on the child's Individual intimate care.

See appendix A

Wherever possible staff should only care intimately for an individual of the same sex. However, in certain circumstances this principle may need to be waived where failure to provide appropriate care would result in negligence.

Children with Special Needs

Children with special needs have the same rights to safety and privacy when receiving intimate care. Additional vulnerabilities that may arise from a physical disability or learning difficulty must be considered with regards to individual teaching and care plans for each child. As with all arrangements for intimate care needs, agreements between the child, those with parental responsibility and the School should be easily understood and recorded.

Please consult Rainhill High School's SEN Policy for more detailed information and guidance.

The Protection of Children

If a member staff has any concerns about physical changes in a child's presentation, e.g. marks, bruises, soreness etc. this will be immediately reported to the designated Safeguarding Officer

If a child becomes distressed or unhappy about being cared for by a particular member of staff, the matter will be looked into and the outcomes recorded. Parents/Carers will be contacted at the earliest opportunity as part of this process in order to reach a resolution

Extra caution may be required where a child has suffered previous abuse or neglect. In the child's view, contact might be associated with such experiences and may lead to allegations of abuse. Additionally, such children may be extremely needy and seek out inappropriate physical contacts. In such circumstances staff should deter the child without causing them a negative experience. Ensuring that a witness is present will help to protect staff from such allegations.

If a child makes an allegation against a member of staff, all necessary procedures will be followed.

Children in distress

There may be occasions when distressed pupil needs comfort and reassurance that may include physical touch such as caring parents would give. Staff must remain self-aware at all times to ensure that their contact is not threatening or intrusive and not subject to misinterpretation.

Particular care must be taken in instances which involve the same pupil over a period of time.

First aid & Intimate care

Designated First Aid Officers should ensure wherever possible that another child or an adult is present when they are administering first aid. Exceptions to this include when a specific care plan states the opposite or to administer first aid with someone present would cause the child embarrassment.

Please Consult Rainhill High School Medical policy for further guidance.

Showers/toileting/changing clothes

Children are entitled to respect and privacy when changing clothes, going to the toilet or taking a shower. However, there must be a required level of supervision to safeguard young people with regards to health and safety considerations and to ensure that bullying or teasing does not occur.

This means that adults should announce their intention of entering changing rooms and be unobtrusive while supervising in this area. Avoid any visually intrusive behaviour.

If a member of staff needs to help toilet a child this should be agreed with the child's Parent/Carer and documented on form appendix 1.

Each time a child needs assistance with their basic care needs this should be documented on the school's logging system and Parents/ Carers should be notified.

Contact with students off school site

If a member of Rainhill High School staff team comes into contact with pupils whilst off duty, they must behave as though in their own professional role and not give conflicting messages regarding their own conduct.

November 2016

Intimate Care Plan**Name:** _____ **D.O.B:** _____**Year:** _____ **Date of plan/agreement :** _____**Toileting/changing arrangements:** _____

_____**Risks if applicable**

- ❖ _____
- ❖ _____
- ❖ _____

These risks will be managed by:

- ❖ _____
- ❖ _____
- ❖ _____

Staff with responsibility for the child's intimate care needs. :_____
_____**Resources Needed:**

Wet Wipes, antibacterial hand washing gel, disposable bags, plastic gloves, change of clothes/underwear.

Any products/resources specific to the child please specify: _____

Parent/ Carer Agreement:**Parent/Carer's Name(s):** _____

I give permission for the relevant (named Staff) to supervise and care for my child's intimate care needs. I agree to the intimate care plan as outlined above.

I understand that I will be contacted and informed if my child has had to have support with any intimate care need.

Signed _____ **Date:** _____