

Caroline (CHAIR)
21-09-17



Ilminster Avenue Specialist Nursery School

Intimate Care Guidelines

Rationale

Children and adults with additional needs are particularly vulnerable and statistically at a high risk of abuse, especially at the time that intimate care is given. Our aim is to ensure our children are, and feel, as safe and secure as possible at these times.

Because of the high level of dependence of many of our children, staff will be in regular situations in which they will need to have intimate contact with them. In order to protect children from possible abuse, and staff from allegations, it is important to have clear guidelines for all staff to follow;

Guidelines

- intimate care and contact situations will be dealt with in an open and transparent manner whilst maintaining children's dignity and privacy
- communicate clearly, using visual and verbal cues, all the steps in children's intimate care routines. Use intimate care pathways and targets for individual children.
- aim to have consistent staff delivering intimate care through the day, at best no more than three individuals through the day, to provide a continuity of experience
- all staff will use the same terminology for resources, body parts and bodily functions to provide continuity for the children so that as far as possible they will be able to anticipate each part of the care process as it occurs and can be supported to develop their own understanding of their body and its functions.