



# West SILC

## Policy for Intimate Care





### 1.0 Introduction

The Intimate Care Policy and Guidelines have been developed to safeguard pupils and staff. They apply to everyone involved in the intimate care of pupils.

Disabled pupils can be especially vulnerable. Staff involved with their intimate care need to be sensitive to their individual needs.

- 1.1 Intimate care can be defined as care tasks of an intimate nature, associated with bodily functions, body products and personal hygiene which demand direct or indirect contact with or exposure of the genitals. Examples include care associated with continence and menstrual management as well as more ordinary tasks such as help with washing or bathing
- 1.2 Pupil's dignity will be preserved and a high level of privacy, choice and control will be provided to them. Staff that provides intimate care to pupils have a high awareness of child protection issues. Staff behaviour is open to scrutiny and staff at West SILC work in partnership with parents/carers to provide continuity of care to pupils wherever possible.
- 1.3 The West SILC is committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of pupils will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times. We recognise that there is a need to treat all pupils with respect when intimate care is given. No pupil should be attended to in a way that causes distress or pain.

### 2.0 Our approach to best practice

The following are the fundamental Principles of Intimate Care upon which the Policy and Guidelines are based:

- Every pupil has the right to be safe.
- Every pupil has the right to personal privacy.
- Every pupil has the right to be valued as an individual.
- Every pupil has the right to be treated with dignity and respect.
- Every pupil has the right to be involved and consulted in their own intimate care to the best of their abilities.
- Every pupil has the right to express their views on their own intimate care and to have such views taken into account.
- Every pupil has the right to have levels of intimate care that are as consistent as possible.



### 3.0 The protection of pupils

3.1 The SILCs Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy will be accessible to staff and adhered to at all times.

### 4.0 Students and Volunteers

Students and volunteers will **only** be involved in the intimate care of pupils if they are on long-term placement, where the undertaking of intimate care is a specific learning need to be met whilst on placement.

### 5.0 Guidelines

Intimate Care Guidelines will be displayed in all areas where toileting and changing takes place alongside Health and Hygiene Protocols

This policy has been compiled and will be reviewed, to ensure that it is fair, does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupils.

This policy will be approved by the SILC's Governing Body

This policy should be read in conjunction with

Equality ACT 2010

West SILC Teaching and Learning Policy

West SILC Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

West SILC Guidelines for Intimate Care

Leeds SCP Children and Young People's Intimate Care Good Practice Guidelines

Reviewed September 2023- Rachel McCusker – Vice Principal

This policy will be reviewed in September 2024 and biannually thereafter.