

Bennettsbridge Mixed NS.

Intimate Care and Toileting Policy

At all times the privacy and dignity of the child will be paramount when addressing intimate care needs.

Parents are informed of the following procedures in the Junior Infants induction meeting prior to their child starting school. Parents have a responsibility to advise staff of the intimate care needs of their child.

1. **Wetting Incidents:** Parents will be contacted to make arrangements to come to the school with a fresh change of clothes. They will be given access to a bathroom to assist child if necessary. If parents cannot make the necessary arrangements as described above or for very minor incidents the child is given wipes and new underwear so they can clean and change themselves.
2. **Soiling Incidents:** If the child has soiled him/herself the parents will be contacted in order to make arrangements to have the child collected and taken home. While waiting the child will wait in the bathroom/office/gym staff will do all that is necessary to make the child comfortable.
 - If assistance is required two members of staff will be present when dealing with intimate care needs.
 - Wet/soiled clothes will be put in a plastic bag and given to parents.
 - Staff are required to wear protective gloves while dealing with the situation.
 - Parents are asked to replace the underwear with new underwear.
 - A record of such incidents will be kept in the incident book.

Children with Specific Toileting/Intimate Care Needs

It may be the case that a pupil will have an ongoing need for assistance with toileting/intimate care.

- In all such situations a meeting will be convened, after enrolment and before the child starts school. Parents/Guardians, Principal, Class Teacher, SNA, and if appropriate, the pupil, will attend.

- Those involved with the intimate care of the child will clarify and agree practices which are acceptable to the staff, the child and the parents.
- Personnel involved in this care will be identified and provision for occasions when staff members may be absent will be outlined, (SNA, substitute SNA)
- Two members of staff will be present when dealing with intimate care needs. Staff will wear protective gloves.
- Any change of personnel or procedures will be discussed with the pupil, if appropriate.
- As far as possible the pupil will be involved in identification of his/her personal requirements, wishes, changes etc.,
- A written copy of the agreement will be kept on the pupil's support file and parents will be notified of any changes from agreed procedures.

This policy was approved by the Board of Management on

Date: _____

Signed: _____