ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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INTIMATE CARE POLICY

Ownership: **Health and Safety Committee**

Document Date: Autumn 2026
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Pupils in St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School are happy, confident and very proud of their school. They clearly understand their mission statement, 'Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him.' They can quote scripture to give examples of how they do their best to follow Jesus every day. Pupils explain that if they ever feel worried about something they are confident that adults will help them in a discreet and caring way. They are fully aware of their responsibilities towards the more vulnerable members of society and can reference Catholic social teaching when discussing their work with the local foodbank.

Catholic Schools Inspectorate October 2024

Pupils enjoy school. They respond well to the high expectations of staff. Pupils strive to do their best and achieve well. Pupils are extremely kind and caring. They frequently give up their free time to help each other. Lessons are free from disruption and lunchtimes are a buzz of happy and harmonious play.

Ofsted May 2024

At St Margaret Clitherow School we are committed to Safeguarding Children

Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our Church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him

Intimate Care Guidelines

Every School will at some time find that it has one or more of their pupils who require assistance of an intimate nature. All care practices are known and approved by the Governing Body where necessary and appropriate. Once approved the list of care practices should form part of the schools wider policy statements. Staff behaviour is open to scrutiny and the staff at St. Margaret Clitherow School always work in partnership with parents/carers to provide continuity of care to children where possible.

What might we describe as intimate care?

- Supporting a pupil with dressing and undressing.
- Cleaning a young or disabled pupil who has soiled him/herself.
- Assisting a child with regular medical care if unable to carry this out unaided.

Intimate care may involve care tasks where indirect or direct exposure of the genital area may be unavoidable. Most common examples are continence of a young child within the school to help with washing.

At St Margaret Clitherow School we believe that the children should have the right to be safe in relation to their bodies. We treat each child with dignity and ensure privacy appropriate to the child's age and understanding.

- One member of staff should carry out intimate care such as toileting and another adult will be informed.
- Involve the child as far as possible in caring for themselves.
- Understand the need to be sensitive and responsive to a child's reactions.
- If a child shows a concern, or feels uncomfortable with a staff member then every effort will be made to find out the reason and the responsibility of care will be given to someone else.
- Report to the Head Teacher any concerns and record immediately.

Intimate Care in Relation to Medical Needs.

Some pupils have daily needs and need assistance. All care practices will be discussed with the child's parents and the Head Teacher and explained to staff, using outside agencies for advice if necessary. Care plans will be adhered to if devised for an extraordinary medical need. Please see attached Appendix.

Our Approach to Best Practice.

St Margaret Clitherow is committed to ensuring that all staff undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times. No child will be attended to if in any way they show signs of distress.

Staff who deliver intimate care have had training in child protection issues. Health and safety training is also given. Children will have a high level of privacy, choice and control.

Staff will be supported to adapt their practice in relation to the needs of individual children, taking into account developmental changes such as the onset of puberty and menstruation. Whenever possible, staff who are involved in the intimate care of a child, will not usually be involved in the sex education of that child as an additional safeguard.

As a basic principle children will be supported to achieve autonomy appropriate to their level of understanding.

Child Protection

These guidelines should be read in conjunction with the school Child Protection Policy. If a member of staff has any concern regarding the physical change in a child's presentation e.g. marks, bruises, soreness etc, this will be immediately reported to the Head Teacher who is the designated person for child protection. If deemed necessary, a clear record of concern will be completed and a referral to C.S.F will be immediately sent and/or the police may be contacted. All reported concerns are recorded by the DSP.

Appendix 1: Care Plan

CARE PLAN FOR ……..

Routine each day:

- Adult to remind …… to use toilet after snack, dinner and regular intervals during the day if needed.

If …… has a soiling accident:

- Adult to take …… to disabled toilet for privacy and space another member of staff will be informed.
- Class teacher or office staff informed.
- …… to remove soiled clothing. Adult to assist if necessary.
- Adult to clean shoes if required and put soiled clothes in a bag.
- …… to clean himself/herself. Adult to assist only if necessary.
- …… to dress himself/herself.
- Adult and child to wash hands and return to class.

Assigned carer: …….

If ……. absent another familiar adult will attend to *(name)*'s needs.

……. …….
(Parent) (Headteacher)

To be reviewed : …….

Appendix 2: EYFS Care Plan

CARE PLAN FOR ……..

If …….. has a soiling accident:

- Adult to take …….. to toilet area for privacy and space another member of staff will be informed.
- Class teacher informed.
- …… to remove soiled clothing. Adult to assist if necessary.
- Adult to clean shoes if required and put soiled clothes in a bag.
- …….. to clean himself/herself. Adult to assist only if necessary.
- Staff will wear disposal gloves and apron.
- Hot water and liquid soap used to wash hands as soon as the task is completed and paper towels used for drying hands.

Assigned member of staff: EYFS Staff

……. …….
(Parent) (Headteacher)

To be reviewed : …….