

## **Dalystown National School: Intimate Care and Toileting Policy**

The policy aims to give clear direction with regard to staff's interaction with pupils who require intimate care. Intimate care is a key area of a person's self-image and respect and as such it is vital that it is practised in a sensitive manner. It is essential that the needs and rights of pupils and staff are protected and that the highest standards of best practise are always ensured in the area of intimate personal assistance. The level of assistance required will reflect the needs of each individual pupil at any given time.

### **Children with Specific Toileting/Intimate Care Needs:**

- In all situations where a pupil needs assistance with Toileting/intimate care, 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.
- The specific care needs of the child, and how the school will meet them, will be clarified.
- Personnel involved in this care will be identified.
- Provision for occasions when staffs are absent will be outlined (e.g. Substitute SNA's will not generally be involved in intimate care. Any change of personnel will be discussed with the pupil, if appropriate.
- Two members of staff will be present when dealing with intimate care needs.
- Any changes will be discussed with parent/guardian and pupil and noted in writing to the pupil's file.
- 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 pupils file.
- Parents will be notified of any changes from agreed procedures.
- At all times the dignity and privacy of the pupil will be paramount in addressing intimate care needs.
- Staff will wear protective gloves.

### **Toileting Accidents:**

- At the junior infant induction meetings, the school procedures will be outlined to parents, and they will be asked to submit in writing specific wishes regarding toileting accidents.
- A supply of clean underwear, wipes, track-suit bottoms etc will be kept in the school.
- In the first instance, the pupil will be offered fresh clothing to clean and change themselves.
- If, for any reason, the child is unable to clean or change themselves, the procedure outlined by parents will be followed.
- If staff must clean /change the child, two members of staff, familiar to the child will attend to him/her.
- Parents will be notified of these accidents.
- A record of the incident should be kept.

**Ratification and Review:**

This policy was ratified by the BoM in June 2025. It will be reviewed in the event of incidents or on the enrolment of child/children with significant intimate care and toileting needs.