# Mini Explorers Club

# Intimate Care Policy

When providing intimate care we will ensure that the child’s safety, dignity and privacy are maintained at all times.

‘Intimate care’ covers any task that involves washing, touching or carrying out a procedure to intimate personal areas and is associated with bodily functions and personal hygiene including, toileting, nappy changing, washing and undressing/dressing.

Staff at Mini Explorers Club who provide intimate care will do so in a professional manner and always with the child’s best interests and safety at the forefront. Lydia and Jade are aware of safeguarding issues and will have relevant training (Safeguarding Lead Level 3) before providing intimate care. No child should suffer distress or pain as a result of receiving intimate care.

Mini Explorers Club will work in partnership with parents and the child, where appropriate, to provide care appropriate to the needs of the individual child and should be informed of these needs prior to children attending a club session.

**Toileting**

Mini Explorers Club understand that some children will need assistance when going to the toilet and will encourage children to do as much for themselves as they can but will, with the permission of parents/carers, assist children should they need help with wiping or undressing/redressing when they need the toilet or changing and cleaning in the event of an accident. Staff will do so in a professional manner and will explain each task to the child and the reasons for it whilst providing intimate care. Parents are required to sign a consent form to say that they are happy for us to help their children in this way.

**Nappies**

We have changing facilities on site and it is our club policy to accept children in nappies and to ensure that a child’s needs are met by changing them if needs be, but we ask that children arrive in a fresh nappy at the start of the session if at all possible and that nappies, wipes and nappy bags are provided by parents/carers.

**Dealing with blood and body fluids**

Blood, vomit, urine and faeces will be cleaned up immediately and disposed of safely. Soiled children’s clothing will be bagged to go home - staff will not rinse it. Children will be kept away from the affected area until the incident has been dealt with fully.

Staff at Mini Explorers Club will maintain high standards of personal hygiene, and will take all practical steps to prevent and control the spread of infection.

**Physical contact**

The club aims to support children’s care and welfare, at all times, in line with their individual needs. At times children may need to be comforted, encouraged, held and offered physical reassurance or physical assistance/help with carrying out an activity as part of attending the club and being away from their parents/carers. Staff members will endeavour to comfort children if they are upset or hurt or in cases of illness/injury, with their safety and welfare at the forefront at all times.

We wish to ensure the safety and welfare of the children involved in intimate care routines and safeguard against any potential harm as well as ensuring the staff member involved is fully supported and able to perform their duties safely and confidently.

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| This policy was adopted by:Mini Explorers Club | Date: 24/07/2024 |
| To be reviewed: July 2024 | Signed: Lydia Bradburn-Smith & Jade Smith |

Written in accordance with the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2021): Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Information for parents and carers [3.74] .*