



Making the difference

Intimate Care Policy



INTIMATE CARE POLICY

The issue of intimate care is a sensitive one and requires staff to be respectful of each individual child's needs. The child's dignity should always be preserved with a high level of privacy, choice and control.

Child protection policies and related issues are very important and are there to protect, not only the children, but also the staff. Children, particularly those with learning difficulties, sensory impairment and physical difficulties can be vulnerable (please read the Vbranch House Child Protection Policy).

Vbranch House staff work in a position of trust and responsibility. Volunteers and students should not be involved in intimate care when a child needs body privacy.

Definition of Intimate Care

Intimate care can be defined as any activity related to meet personal care needs i.e.

Feeding – including gastrostomy feeding.
Oral care.
Undressing/dressing.
Toilet and nappy changing.
Menstrual care.
Treatments such as suppositories or rectal medicines.
Catheter or stoma care.
Supervision of children while toilet training.

Principles of good practice are:

All staff to be aware of and follow guidelines in this policy. Vbranch House children are individuals who have special needs and requirements.

Appropriate protective equipment must be worn by staff i.e; gloves and aprons (see hygiene policy) and changing areas must be cleaned.

All staff involved in intimate care must strive to protect the child's privacy and dignity. Also be mindful of the individual's particular needs, capabilities and how they communicate.

Speak to the child using their name. Explain what it is you are going to do or help them with. Let them respond or help as much as they are able.

Staff should be trained up and supervised by a senior member of staff. Anything unusual or other difficulties should be discussed with the school nurse immediately.

If any staff member has concerns with a colleague's intimate care patterns they **MUST** report this to the school nurse or head teacher immediately.





GENERAL RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

Site/Area: Address:

Assessed by (PRINT):..... Signed:
 Date:

Assessed by (PRINT):..... Signed:
 Date:

ACTIVITY	HAZARD(S)	PERSONS AT RISK	EXISTING CONTROL MEASURES	RESIDUAL RISK (H.M.L.)	FURTHER ACTION NEEDED

Reviewed by: Date: Reviewed by:
 Date:





GENERAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Precautions to be taken by Staff

CONGENITAL VIRUS CYTOMEGALO

This condition can be spread through saliva and urine, therefore the following precautions should be carried out whilst at Vranch House.

When changing pads or nappies, ensure gloves are worn and hands are washed afterwards.

Hands should be washed or alcohol gel applied before carrying out activities with other children.

Toys used in school should be washed thoroughly in hot soapy water and dried.

Plinth and toilet seat must be cleaned thoroughly with hot soapy water and dried. Disinfectant and anti-bacterial spray or wipes must be used between each user.

Anyone who is pregnant should be made aware of this condition and they are advised not to have any contact.

ADVICE TO PREGNANT MUMS

You should not have one to one contact with the child.

Children often have viral infections without showing signs of infection.

Viruses are often transmitted in body fluids, such as saliva, nasal secretions, urine and faeces.

Conscientious attention to hand hygiene after handling toys and other equipment that have been in the mouths of children is important.



A good standard of general hygiene and use of soaps, hand gel and gloves will prevent cross infection.



GENERAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Management and Control of MRSA At Vranch House School

Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA)

A bacterial infection, which is resistant to the usual antibiotics.

Staph A (it's shortened name) can be carried on the skin, can be present in the nose or blood of healthy people.

The elderly, the very ill or those with reduced immune systems are most at risk of becoming infected.

The prevention of MRSA by Vranch House Staff is based upon standard precautions, which are already in place.

Hand washing – wash hands before and after physical contact. Use the alcohol hand gel provided.

Gloves – wear gloves when touching contaminated materials and wash hands afterwards.

Aprons – In toilet area or cleaning up body fluids. Nappies are to be disposed of, these are double bagged.

Equipment – tables, trays, plinths and toilets to be cleaned using a disinfectant spray after use.

