

The IMPS Motorcycle Display Team

[The IMPSTART Trust]



Intimate Care Policy

Published: April 2002

Last Revised: 30th October 2012

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Purpose:

Staff at The Trust and The Imps Motorcycle Display Team who work with children or children whom have "Special Needs" realize that the issue of intimate care is a difficult one that requires staff to be respectful of children's needs. Intimate care can be defined as care tasks of an intimate nature, associated with bodily functions, body products and personal hygiene, which demand direct or indirect contact with or exposure of the genitals. Examples include care associated with continence and menstrual management as well as first aid following an accident or more ordinary tasks such as help with washing or bathing.

On these occasions it is important that children's dignity is preserved and a high level of privacy, choice and control is provided to them. Staff who may have to provide intimate care to children have a high awareness of child protection issues and are aware that they are open to scrutiny. Thus, staff at the Trust and the Imps work in partnership with parents/carers to provide continuity of care to young people wherever possible. Both the Trust and the Imps are committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of children will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times, recognising that there is a need to treat all children with respect when intimate care is given. No child should be attended to in a way that causes distress.

Intended Results:

Our Approach to best practice necessitates that:

All children who require intimate care are treated respectfully at all times; the child's welfare and dignity is of paramount importance.

Staff who provide intimate care are trained in Child Protection, First Aid that includes moving and handling and are aware of best practice

As a basic principle children will be supported to achieve the highest level of autonomy that is possible given their age abilities and condition following an incident

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Should a child, due to their special needs, require regular assistance an 'Intimate Care Plan' will be drawn up in consultation with the parent.

Each child's right to privacy will be respected

Wherever possible one adult will care for one child, unless there is a sound reason for having two adults present. If this is the case, the reasons should be clearly documented.

The needs and wishes of children and their parents will be carefully considered alongside any possible constraints; e.g. staffing and equal opportunities legislation

Established Child Protection Procedures and Inter Agency Child Protection Procedures will be accessible to staff at The Imps and adhered to

Where appropriate all children will be taught personal safety skills carefully matched to their level of development and understanding

If a member of staff at the Imps has any concerns about physical changes in a child's presentation, e.g. marks, bruises, soreness etc. he/she will immediately report concerns to the team's Designated Child Protection person. A clear record of concern will be completed and referred to Social Care if necessary. Parents will be asked for their consent or informed that a referral is necessary prior to it being made unless doing so is likely to place the child at greater/further risk of harm

If a child makes an allegation against a member of staff all necessary procedures will be followed in line with established practice [See LA Child Protection Procedures]

All Imps Staff will take the NSPCC Certificate in 'Child Protection Awareness'

This policy will be reviewed every two years, or earlier should the need arise, and it's implementation and effectiveness assessed.

This Policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the organisation.

Dated: 2nd December 2010