Intimate Care Policy



1. Introduction

Mission Statement: We strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect which promotes excellence in all aspects of school life and allows individuals to realise their full potential

Coolmine Community School is committed to safeguarding the dignity, rights, and well-being of all students. This policy outlines the procedures and responsibilities involved in providing intimate care to students who require assistance with personal care due to medical, physical, or developmental needs.

2. Definition of Intimate Care

Intimate care refers to any personal care activity that involves:

- Assistance with toileting and continence
- Changing of clothes
- Personal hygiene (e.g., washing, cleaning)
- Menstrual care
- Feeding (where applicable)

3. Aims of the Policy

- To ensure that students are treated with dignity, respect, and sensitivity
- To promote independence wherever possible
- To protect the safety and well-being of both students and staff
- To ensure clear procedures are in place for intimate care tasks

4. Roles and Responsibilities

- SNAs are primarily responsible for providing intimate care, under the guidance of the SEN Coordinator and Principal
- Parents/Guardians will be consulted and informed of care arrangements
- Students will be encouraged to participate in their own care to the best of their ability

5. Procedures

- Intimate care should be carried out by trained staff in a private, safe, and appropriate setting
- A second adult should be made aware when intimate care is being provided
- Gloves and hygiene products must be used and disposed of appropriately
- Staff must never carry out a task they are uncomfortable with or for which they have not received training

6. Parental Involvement

- Parents will be asked to complete a Personal Pupil Plan (PPP) outlining the student's care needs
- Any changes to care routines will be discussed with parents and documented

7. Confidentiality and Dignity

- All information regarding a student's care needs is confidential
- Students will be supported in a manner that maintains their privacy and dignity at all times

8. Child Protection

- All staff involved in intimate care must be familiar with the school's Child Protection Policy
- Any concerns about a student's well-being must be reported to the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) immediately

9. Training

- SNAs and relevant staff will receive training in:
- Manual handling
- Infection control
- Intimate care procedures
- Child protection

This policy was developed in collaboration with the following key stakeholders:

Staff	Focus group and survey form	23/09/2025
Parents	Survey form	01/10/2025
Students	Student questionnaire and discussion	13/10/2025

Ratified:	**17th September 2026**
Chairperson of Board of Management:	**Keith Purcell**