**Intimate Care Policy**

In line with EYFS welfare requirements and the Equalities Act 2010 we need to ensure equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice by ensuring that every child is included and not disadvantaged because of ethnicity, culture or religion, home language, family background, learning difficulties or disabilities, gender or ability.

Our setting is committed to providing safe and appropriate care for all our children, ensuring that we meet their individual needs and this policy aims to set out clear procedures in order to provide appropriate care for all children and safeguard staff and children as individual needs are met.

We see toilet training as a self-care skill that children have the opportunity to learn with the full support and non-judgemental concern of adults.

To assist with a child’s toileting, staff will support and/or wipe the child’s bottom to ensure they are clean.

In the event your child wets or soils themselves whilst in our care we will:

* Ensure staff members have appropriate information and training, dealing with the needs of the child discreetly.
* Liaise with parents/carers as appropriate.
* Ensure we have a safe and suitable area in which to support the child, respecting their privacy whilst adhering to appropriate safeguarding procedures.
* Ensure children’s privacy is respected whilst also ensuring staff members remain visible.
* Ensure our staff have enhanced DBS checks to support the safeguarding of all children within our care.
* Review our procedure and practice regularly.

To minimise the risk of infection staff members will:

* Wear disposable gloves while dealing with the incident and dispose of these in the clinical waste bin.
* Soiled nappies will be wrapped and disposed of in the appropriate waste bin.
* Soiled items will be double wrapped for parents/carers collection and stored safely until collected.
* Clean the changing unit/area after use.
* Use hot water and liquid soap/anti-bacterial wash to wash both the staff members and the child’s hands immediately after intimate care has taken place. (The staff member will support the child with hand washing as is age and stage appropriate.)
* Use a hot air dryer or paper towels for drying hands. (The staff member will support the child with hand drying as is age and stage appropriate.)

Partnership Working with Parents/carers:

The Parent/Carer will:

* Provide spare nappies/creams/change of clothes as appropriate to meet children’s individual needs.
* Understand and agree the procedures to be followed to meet their child’s individual needs.
* Agree to inform the setting should the child have any marks/rash.
* Agree to review arrangements should this be necessary.

The Setting will:

* Understand and agree to meet the child’s individual needs to ensure their comfort and care.
* Agree to follow appropriate procedures as laid down in our Safeguarding policy should marks/rashes be seen whilst intimate care takes place.
* Agree to review arrangements should this be necessary.
* Have a ‘duty of care’ towards children’s personal needs. If children are left in wet or soiled nappies/pull ups in the setting this may constitute neglect and will be a disciplinary matter.

This policy is underpinned by:

The Equalities Act 2010

Page 36 of the EYFS Statutory framework states ‘There should be suitable hygienic changing facilities for changing any children who are in nappies.’ OFSTED interprets this to include the disposal of soiled nappies. It is the settings responsibility to make appropriate arrangements for the safe and hygienic disposal of soiled nappies. It is not acceptable practice to return soiled nappies to the parents/carer at the end of the session as this could be seen as being both unhygienic and discriminatory.

*This policy is reviewed annually by Martlesham Preschool Committee*