



The Lloyd Williamson Nurseries

Intimate Care Policy

2026-2027

Updated by Lucy Meyer
Date: 09.07.25
Due for Update: July 2027

1. Aims

At The Lloyd Williamson Nurseries, intimate care is carried out with kindness, dignity and deep respect for each child's emotional and physical wellbeing. Our nurseries have long upheld a culture of gentle, responsive practice, and this policy reflects the values that guide our daily work: children's comfort, privacy, safety and confidence come first. Under the Early Years Foundation Stage, intimate care includes nappy changing, toileting support, changing clothes, cleaning after accidents and providing comfort when a child is unwell or distressed. Ofsted's 2026 framework places particular emphasis on children's autonomy, safeguarding vigilance, professional boundaries and the quality of adult-child interactions, all of which are central to our approach.

Children are supported in a calm, reassuring manner that helps them feel secure. Staff explain what is happening in simple, familiar language, giving children time to process and respond. Whenever appropriate, children are encouraged to make small choices, such as selecting a wipe, choosing a clean item of clothing or helping with a step in their routine. This gentle encouragement supports independence while ensuring that care remains developmentally appropriate and never rushed.

2. Privacy and Safeguarding

Privacy is protected throughout every intimate care routine. The Lloyd Williamson Nursery has designated changing and toileting areas that allow children to feel safe without isolating staff from sight or supervision. Doors are never fully closed, and staff position themselves so that they remain visible to colleagues while still offering children a sense of personal space. Children are never left alone during intimate care, and staff remain attentive to signs of discomfort, distress or illness. The environment is kept warm, clean and welcoming, with familiar routines that help children feel at ease.

Safeguarding is woven into every aspect of intimate care. Only trained, vetted staff carry out personal care routines, and they always follow the nursery's safer-working-practice expectations. Staff communicate clearly with colleagues when entering or leaving an intimate care area, ensuring transparency and accountability. Any unusual marks, injuries or changes in behaviour are recorded immediately and shared with the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Ofsted's 2026 guidance highlights the importance of professional curiosity, and staff are trained to notice and report anything that does not seem typical for the child. Intimate care is never carried out in a way that compromises professional boundaries, and staff maintain a warm, respectful tone throughout.

3. Parental Partnership

Parents are valued partners in intimate care. We follow each child's home routines as closely as possible, including preferred creams, comforters or language used during toileting. Families are informed of any significant changes, repeated accidents, concerns or achievements. For children with medical needs, allergies or specific care plans, staff follow written instructions agreed with families and health professionals. Our communication is always clear, sensitive and timely, reflecting the trust families place in us.

4. Recording and Procedures

All intimate care routines are recorded promptly and accurately. Nappy changes, toileting support and accidents are logged in real time, ensuring transparency and consistency across the team. Staff wash their hands before and after each care routine, wear gloves when appropriate, and maintain high standards of hygiene in line with Public Health England guidance. Changing mats, toilets and potties are cleaned after each use, and the environment is kept organised and calm to support children's emotional security.

Children's wellbeing is at the heart of our practice. Staff use gentle humour, encouragement and warm interactions to help children feel comfortable. No child is ever shamed, rushed or made to feel embarrassed. Intimate care is treated as an opportunity to build trust, strengthen relationships and support children's developing understanding of their bodies, privacy and self-care. For babies, routines are slow, nurturing and responsive; for older children, staff support growing independence while remaining attentive and reassuring.

5. Reviews

The Lloyd Williamson Nurseries regularly review intimate care procedures to ensure they meet current EYFS requirements, Ofsted expectations and best practice in safeguarding. Staff receive ongoing training, including refreshers on professional boundaries, consent-based language, cultural sensitivity and supporting children with SEND. Leaders monitor practice closely to ensure consistency, safety and high-quality interactions across all rooms and age groups.

This policy reflects our commitment to providing intimate care that is safe, respectful and centred on each child's unique needs. It is part of our wider dedication to maintaining the highest standards of care, safeguarding and emotional wellbeing across The Lloyd Williamson Nurseries.

Updated by:

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Director

