

INTIMATE CARE POLICY

At Redbridge High School there are a significant number of pupils who need support with their personal care needs and the staff are responsible for providing the intimate care for these pupils.

Redbridge High School is committed to ensuring that all staff responsible for the intimate care of pupils will undertake their duties in a professional manner at all times. It is acknowledged that these adults are in a position of great trust.

Redbridge High School takes seriously its responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the pupils in its care.

The school recognises that there is a need to treat all pupils with dignity and respect when intimate care is given.

Our approach to best practise

- Staff who provide intimate care are trained to do so [including Child Protection and Manual Handling Training] and are fully aware of best practice.
- Every pupil who has a manual handling need has a Manual Handling Risk Assessment which covers the handling procedures for that pupil in the bathroom during personal care routines.
- A pupil with handling needs will have 2 staff members supporting them with their personal care needs.
- All staff are aware of the importance of "not talking across a pupil."
- All pupils will be supported to achieve the highest level of independence possible in their personal care e.g. a pupil may only require a verbal prompt to wash their hands after using the toilet.
- The majority of the staff team are female but wherever possible staff will provide intimate care for an individual of the same sex. Unless it is a health and safety issue a male member of staff would not provide intimate care for a female pupil.

To be reviewed December 2010