



# PERSONAL CARE POLICY (CONTINENCE)

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## Purpose

Peter Moyes Anglican Community School (the School) recognises that all children have different rates of development and differing needs during their time at school. Some children remain dependent on long term support for personal care, while others progress slowly towards independence. The achievement of continence can be seen as the most important single self-help skill, improving the person's quality of life, independence and self-esteem.

Most students can independently toilet themselves before commencing fulltime school. However, there are instances where staff may need to provide some support or assistance with personal care/toileting/dressing. The School and parents/guardians may need to determine a management plan that clearly details the roles and responsibilities of all in the management of toileting that is appropriately sensitive and deals with the child in a safe and hygienic environment.

This Policy aligns with Child Safe Policy for a child's right to feel safe and secure, be respected and valued as individuals, right to privacy and dignity. It also includes a professional approach from all School staff to the child, and right for the child to express their views and have them heard. Staff and parents/guardians should also be familiar with the School's Personal Care Procedures (Continence).

Personal care usually has the function of helping with personal presentation and social functioning. It encompasses those areas of physical and medical care that most people carry out for themselves, but which some are unable to do because of disability or medical need. Children and young people may require help with eating, drinking, washing, dressing and toileting. Personal care involving actions related to bodily functions, products and personal hygiene demand direct or indirect contact with, or exposure of, private areas of the child's body.

Young people's personal care needs cannot be seen in isolation. It is essential that they are treated as an individual in a gentle and sensitive manner. Encouraging them to participate in their own personal care should be part of facilitating participation in daily life.

## Related Documents

Accidents & Medical Emergencies Policy  
Child Protection Policy  
Duty of Care Policy  
First Aid Policy  
Occupational Safety and Health Policy  
Consent for Assistance Personal Care Form (PK – Year 1)  
Pastoral Care Policy  
Personal Care Procedures (Continence)  
Staff Code of Conduct  
Students with Learning Difficulties Policy

## Related Links

[Mandatory Reporting](#)  
[Teacher- Student Professional Boundaries](#)