Purpose of this policy

To enable students with personal care needs to attend school.

Policy

Schools must:

- fulfil their duty of care to all students by assisting with infrequent and situational personal care needs
- support students with long or short term personal care needs by preparing a Student Health Support Plan.

As with all aspects of provision of health and personal care support, assisting a student with the management of personal hygiene routines must be conducted in a manner that maximises the student’s safety, comfort, independence, dignity, privacy and learning. Management practices must also reflect occupational health and safety standards for the school.

Definition

Personal care support is daily living support, usually provided by parents/guardians. Students may require the provision of assistance for:

- toileting and personal hygiene
- eating and drinking
- transfers and positioning.

Students may need personal care support due to:

- their age
- developmental delay
- medical conditions
- short term circumstances (such as a student wearing a plaster cast)
- long term circumstances (such as complex medical care needs).
Actions

Schools should consider whether assistance and advice is required from specialists such as physiotherapists, occupational therapists or speech pathologists, or if the student is eligible for support from the Schoolcare program.

Related policies

- Complex Medical Needs
- Continence Care
- Duty of Care
- Health Care Needs
- Personal Hygiene
- Supervision of Eating and Drinking
- Transferring and Positioning

Related legislation

- Working with Children Act 2005

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<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Christine Purcell</td>
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<td>Approved By</td>
<td>School Council</td>
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<td>Principal</td>
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