



Tweendykes School
Care Policy
March 2022

Revise March 2024

Statement of Intent

We aim to provide outstanding care and support for our students according to their individual needs. This includes supporting their medical needs, their personal care needs, their emotional needs and ensuring their comfort and well-being.

Ethos and Values

Tweendykes School's Care Policy should be read in conjunction with the vision of the school and take into account our policies for Communication and Interaction, Behaviour, PSHE, Medical Needs, and Safeguarding.

At Tweendykes we believe that the care of our students is our most important duty and because of this core value we ensure the following: -

- The care of our students is given a priority each day. For some students this may mean flexing their timetable and curriculum offer to ensure their care needs are fully met.
- All students are offered privacy in their personal care routines and undertake them in a way that allows the individual to experience personal dignity.
- We promote independence as far as possible for every student – and build opportunities for students to practise care routines into the school day.
- We maximise the opportunities for social interaction in care routines – making the routine fun and encouraging student responses.
- We acknowledge each student's individuality, listen to students, and adapt care routines accordingly.

Key principles

- We acknowledge that our students have difficulties in communication and support them through augmentative communication methods including signing and symbols.
- For students who require it visual support is consistently used to support them in their daily routines for e.g., undressing/dressing.
- We strive to have consistency of practise across the school and sixth form- so that students can move through the school well-supported and clear of staff expectations.
- We support staff by having robust induction arrangements and ensure a knowledge of safer working guidance
- We integrate care routines into the school day as far as possible but acknowledge for some students specific time may be needed for their care and medical needs to be fully addressed.

Difficulties our students experience

- Tweendykes students experience a range of needs include medical needs, autism, developmental physical delay, communication difficulties, sensory impairments, and emotional needs.
- These needs lead to a range of interventions that staff may need to undertake, such as tube feeding, managing seizures, changing a student's pad, feeding a student, dressing a student, or comforting a student.

Supports we provide to students

We offer the following support to students in our school

- Consistent use of visual support e.g., objects of reference, visual timetables, now and next strips
- Compassionate staff who are responsive to student needs
- A school environment and timetables which are carefully planned and regularly reviewed to ensure all students are well supported and their care needs addressed
- A curriculum offer which is planned to meet the range of care needs presented by our students and where students' progress and learning is thoroughly and regularly assessment
- Well-trained staff
- Interventions such as care plans, IEPs (Individual Educational Plan), BSPs, social stories
- Staff modelling of appropriate routines, behaviours, and skills throughout the day
- Support of peers who are encouraged to offer positive models to support one another
- Parental involvement to provide consistency of approach between home and school

Where to go for help/ further advice?

To ensure students are fully supported a multi- disciplinary approach is used throughout the school. Information and help can be obtained through

- Class teams
- Phase leaders
- Nurses, Physio, OT - Other professionals
- Communication and Interaction Team (CAIT)