

CONTINENCE CARE POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to enable students needing continence care to attend Gisborne Secondary College.

POLICY

Schools must support students requiring continence care.

(Note: this policy does not cover young children for whom continence care is routine related to their age and level of development).

Incontinence definition: Incontinence is the lack of control over bowel or bladder functions and can be caused by:

- Medical conditions such as:
 - Gastroenteritis, causing short term incontinence lack of bowel nerve function, causing long term incontinence
- Medical intervention, such as a side effect of medication
- Development delay or physical and intellectual disability
- Life experience such as behaviour associated with a history of abuse
- Lack of learning opportunity.

ACTIONS

This information below describes how Gisborne Secondary will assist students who need continence care.

Gisborne Secondary College will request the student's medical/health practitioner completes a Personal Care Medical Advice Form – Continence including recommendations for:

- The nature and extent of predictable routine or regular support required
- Management of unplanned events
- Catheter management, if required.

Gisborne Secondary College will:

- Develop a Student Health Support Plan which details family and school staff roles and responsibilities
- Where appropriate use a Toileting Care and Learning Plan to involved students in step-by-step toileting processes to:
 - self-manage toileting tasks, if possible
 - acknowledge learnings that occur
- Provide equipment to support continence care, if required, such as hoists and slings.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Provided to staff at induction and included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff meetings/briefings as required
- Made available publicly on our school website
- Included in transition and enrolment packs

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):

- [Health Care Needs](#)
- [Health Support Planning Forms](#)
- [Complex Medical Care Supports](#)
- [Child and Family Violence Information Sharing Schemes](#)
- [Privacy and Information Sharing](#)

Local policies:

- Health Care Needs

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	June 2022
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	June 2026