



Dorothy Barley Infant School

Supporting children with medical conditions Policy

This policy was written on:

Date: 22.9.2021

By: P Koniotes

Policy will be reviewed on: September 2023

This policy was ratified/reviewed by Governors on:

Date: 18.11.2021

Frequency of review: Every two years or sooner in line with legislation

Note: This policy has been written in line with the following guidance:

- *Children and families act 2014*

Supporting pupils with medical conditions.

Responsible persons: - Headteacher and SENCO

This policy is written in regard to section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014 which places a duty on governing bodies to make arrangements for supporting pupils at their school with medical conditions.

Aims

To ensure pupils at school with medical conditions, in terms of both physical and mental health, are properly supported so they can play a full and active role in school life, remain healthy and achieve their academic potential.

To ensure the needs of children with medical conditions are effectively supported in consultation with health and social care professionals, their parents and the pupils themselves.

Procedure

The person named above is responsible for ensuring that whenever the school is notified that a pupil has a medical condition:

- Sufficient staff are suitably trained.
- All relevant staff are made aware of the child's condition.
- Cover arrangements in case of staff absence is always available.
- Supply teachers are briefed.
- Risk assessments for visits and activities carried out of the normal timetable are carried out.
- Individual healthcare plans are monitored (at least annually)
- Transitional arrangements between schools are carried out.
- If a child's needs change the above measures are adjusted accordingly.

Where children are joining Dorothy Barley Infant School at the start of a new academic year, these arrangements should be in place for the start of term. Where a child joins mid-term or a new diagnosis is given, arrangements should be in place as soon as possible.

Any pupil with a medical condition requiring medication or support in school should have an individual health care plan which details the support that child needs. If the parents, healthcare professional and school agree that a healthcare plan is inappropriate or disproportionate, a record of the child's medical condition and any implications for the child will be kept in the child's individual record.

Individual health care plans

The following information should be considered when writing an individual health care plan:

- The medical condition, its triggers, signs, symptoms and treatments.
- The pupil's resulting needs, including medication and other treatments, times, facilities, equipment, testing, dietary requirements and environmental issues.
- Specific support for the pupil's education, social and emotional needs.
- The level of support needed including in emergencies.
- Who will provide support, their training needs, expectation of their role, confirmation of their proficiency and cover arrangements.
- Who in school needs to be aware of the child's condition and the support required.
- Arrangements for written permission from parents and the headteacher for medication to be administered by a member of staff or self-administered, Whenever possible, with adult supervision.
- Separate arrangements or procedures required for school trips or other school activities outside of the normal school timetable that will ensure the child can participate.
- Confidentiality.
- What to do in an emergency, who to contact and contingency arrangements.
- Where a child has SEND their special educational needs should be mentioned in their individual healthcare plan.

Roles and responsibilities.

Supporting a child with a medical condition during school hours is not the sole responsibility of one person. The school will work collaboratively with any relevant person or agency to provide effective support for the child.

The Governing Board

- Must make arrangements to support pupils with medical conditions and ensure this policy is developed and implemented.
- Must ensure sufficient staff receive suitable training and are competent to support children with medical conditions.

The Headteacher

- Should ensure all staff are aware of the policy and understand their roles in its implementation.
- Should ensure all staff who need to know are informed of a child's condition.
- Should ensure sufficient members of staff are trained to implement the policy.
- Is responsible for the development of individual healthcare plans.
- Should contact the school nursing team in the case of any child with a medical condition who has not been brought to the attention of the school nurse.

School staff

- Any member of staff may be asked to provide support to pupils with medical conditions, including the administering of medicines, although they cannot be required to do so.
- Should receive suitable and sufficient training in order to support children with medical conditions.
- Any staff member should know what to do and respond accordingly when they become aware that a child with a medical condition needs help.

School Nurse team

- Are responsible for notifying the school when a child has been identified as having a medical condition which will require support in school.
- May support staff on implementing a child's individual healthcare plan and provide advice, liaison and training.

Pupils

- Should whenever possible, be fully involved in discussions about their medical support needs and contribute to, and comply with, their individual healthcare plan.

Parents

- Must provide the school with sufficient and up to date information about their child's medical needs.
- Are the key partners and should be involved in the development and review of their child's individual healthcare plan.
- Should carry out any action they have agreed to as part of the individual healthcare plan's implementation.

Notes

The following practice is considered not acceptable:

- Preventing children from easily accessing their medication and administering it when and where necessary.
- Assuming children with the same condition require the same treatment.
- Ignoring the views of the child, their parents, medical advice or opinion.
- Sending children with medical conditions home frequently or prevent them from staying for normal school activities (unless specified in the individual healthcare plan).
- Penalizing children for their attendance record if their absences are related to their medical condition that is recognised under this policy.
- Preventing children from drinking, eating or taking toilet breaks whenever they need to in order to manage their medical condition effectively.
- To prevent children from participating in any aspect of school life, including school trips.
- This policy should be read in conjunction with the SEND Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Intimate Care Policy.