



Supporting Children with Medical Needs Policy

Date: March 2022

Date for Review: March 2023

Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs Policy

Pupils at Blackhall Primary School with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they can play an active part in school life, remain healthy and able to achieve their academic potential, with full access to education, including school trips and physical education.

Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on governing bodies of maintained schools, proprietors of academies and management committees of PRUs to make arrangements for supporting pupils at their school with medical conditions.

Definition of the term Medical Condition used in this context “A medical condition that is long term with acute episodes, requires on-going support, and involves the need for medication and/or care whilst at school. The condition will need monitoring and could require immediate intervention in emergency circumstances.”

Some children with medical conditions may be disabled. Where this is the case the Governing body must comply with their duties under the Equality Act 2010. Some may also have special educational needs (SEN) and may have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) which brings together health and social care needs, as well as their special educational provision. For children with SEND, this guidance should be read in conjunction with the SEND code of practice and the school’s Local Offer.

Rational

Blackhall Primary School wishes to provide a fully inclusive educational and pastoral system. To do this we need to ensure that correct procedures and protocols are in place to enable any pupil with a long term medical condition to be able to attend school or have minimum disruption to their education.

Aims

- To ensure as little disruption to our pupils’ education as possible.
- To develop staff knowledge and training in all areas necessary for our pupils.
- To ensure we develop links with all outside agency support systems.
- To ensure safe storage and administration of agreed medication.
- To provide a fully inclusive school.

Definition

This policy relates to pupils who have a recognised medical condition, which will last longer than 15 days and will require the pupil to have an individual health care plan protocol in school.

Individual Healthcare Plans must:

- Be clear and concise.
- Be written in partnership with parents, child, healthcare professional and key staff.
- Be reviewed annually or when there is a change in the condition of the child.
- Be easily accessible whilst preserving confidentiality.
- Outline educational provision if the student is unable to attend school.

- Contain details of the medical condition, its triggers, signs, symptoms and treatments.
- Be securely stored by First Aid lead/Designated teacher.
- Provide details of the student's resulting needs, including medication (dose, side-effects and storage) and other treatments, time, facilities, equipment, testing, access to food and drink where this is used to manage their condition, dietary requirements, modifications to buildings, furniture or equipment, and environmental issues e.g. crowded corridors, travel time between lessons.

The school will:

- Ensure that pupils with medical conditions are identified as they transfer to the school and through the on-going annual data check process.
- Arrange for written permission from parents/carers for medication to be administered by a member of staff during school hours.
- Have separate arrangements in place for school trips or other school activities outside of the normal school timetable that will ensure the student can participate, e.g. risk assessments.
- Always have a minimum of two members of staff available trained in first aid response with knowledge of the pupils with medical conditions and access to their IHCPs.
- Always have a member of staff trained in first aid to accompany the children on school trips.
- Be clear about what to do in an emergency, including who to contact, and contingency arrangements. Some children may have an emergency healthcare plan prepared by their lead clinician that could be used to inform development of their Individual Healthcare Plan.
- Make all staff working directly with pupils aware of the pupils in the school with medical conditions, through the display in staffroom.
- Provide sufficient training for staff to meet the needs of pupils at the school with medical conditions.

Identification

We will work with the parents and medical professionals to ensure we have specific protocols in place as soon as the child starts school. This may take the form of information sharing, developing specific care plans, organising training, employing new staff or reorganising classroom facilities. We will also regularly send out medical questionnaires to parents to ensure all our records are up to date.

Provision and Organisation

The school will follow the guidance given by relevant professionals regarding supporting pupils with medical needs in school. This policy will be kept alongside that guidance to provide a management strategy to fully support the needs of all staff, pupils and parents.

Training regarding specific conditions will be delivered as required. This is usually within the term of a new pupil beginning school but if necessary before they commence their education. First aid training will continue to be under the guidance of the Health and Safety Policy. The school nurse liaises with the school and is available by email and phone for support. Pupils requiring continuous support for a medical condition will be given an Individual Health Care Plan (IHCP).

Individual Health Care Plans (IHCP)

The main purpose of an IHCP is to identify the level of support that is needed at school for an individual child. The IHCP clarifies for staff, parents/carers and the child the help the school can provide and receive. These plans will be reviewed annually as a minimum, or more frequently at the request of parents/carers or the school, or as required an IHCP will include:

- Details of the child's condition
- What constitutes an emergency
- What action to take in an emergency
- What not to do in the event of an emergency
- Who to contact in an emergency
- The role of staff
- Special requirements e.g. dietary needs, pre-activity precautions
- Side effects of medicines

A copy will be given to parents/carers, class teachers/relevant support staff and a copy will be retained in the medical needs file. All trained staff will ensure they are aware of the protocols and procedures for specific pupils in school through attending training provided and reading care plans devised for individual pupils. Medication will be stored in the cupboard in the classroom clearly signposted with a green cross label.

Roles and Responsibility

The ultimate responsibility for the management of this policy in school is with the Head teacher and Governing Body. Lorraine Vincent (Early Years Inclusion Worker) will manage the policy on a day-to-day basis and ensure all procedures and protocols are maintained.

School Visits

At Blackhall Primary School, no child will be excluded from a trip because of their medical needs and this must be considered when plans are made. When preparing risk assessments staff must consider any reasonable adjustments they might make to enable a child with medical needs to participate fully and safely on visits.

Additional safety measures may need to be taken for outside visits and it may be that an additional staff member, a parent/carer or other volunteer might be needed to accompany a particular child.

Arrangements for taking any medicines will need to be planned or as part of the risk assessment and visit planning process. A copy of IHCP should be taken on trips and visits in the event of information being needed in an emergency.

Other Support

Outside agencies such as:

- School Nurse Service
- Medical specialists relating to pupil

- Social Services
- SEN Advisory Team
- Specialist Support Groups
- Parent Partnership
- Educational Psychology Team
- Child Protection Team

All will be regularly contacted to support and advise school in the devising and management of this policy.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy will be monitored yearly and updated when necessary ensuring new legislation is incorporated. Staff will regularly receive opportunities to discuss and evaluate the management of the procedures and protocols in school. This policy will also be made available to parents on the school website. We will ask parents for annual updates regarding medical information.