



Children's



Endeavour



Trust

Supporting Children with Medical Conditions Policy

The Children's Endeavour Trust comprises of:

Abbot's Hall Community Primary School
Bosmere Community Primary School
Broke Hall Community Primary School
Chilton Community Primary School
Combs Ford Primary School
Freeman Community Primary School
Springfield Junior School

Document Control

Version	Date	Author	Comments
Issue 1	June 2020	CEO	Model policy and individual school policies studied. Headteachers consulted upon.

Owner: CEO

Approver: Trust Board

Statutory Policy: Yes

Review Cycle: Bi-annual

Approval date: 15th July 2020

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1) Background

In September 2014 the DfE published new guidance 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions'. That guidance contains both statutory and non-statutory guidance. This policy covers both elements. This was updated in December 2015.

New guidance has been issued because section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on governing bodies of maintained schools to make arrangements for supporting pupils at their school with medical conditions. The term 'medical conditions' is not defined in the Act or the guidance but our interpretation is:

Short Term: affecting children's participation in school activities and for which they are on a course of medication

Long Term: potentially limiting children's access to education requiring extra care and support (deemed **special medical needs**). This may include a medical condition under control by use of drugs but with the potential for relapse.

2) Introduction

From 1 September 2014, schools are under a duty to make arrangements for supporting pupils with medical conditions. This policy sets out what those arrangements are. This policy follows the guidance published by the DfE in April 2014 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions'.

This policy is restricted to pupils with an ongoing medical problem. Minor or short term or one-off medical problems are covered by the separate First Aid Policy.

Our schools will maintain a focus on each individual child with a medical condition and seek to give parents and pupils confidence in the schools' abilities to provide effective support for medical conditions in schools.

The schools will always aim to:

- Have a good understanding of how medical conditions impact on a child's ability to learn
- Increase the child's confidence
- Promote self-care

3) Equal opportunities

Our schools are clear about the need to actively support pupils with medical conditions to participate in school trips and visits, or in sporting activities, and not prevent them from doing so. The schools will consider what reasonable adjustments need to be made to enable these pupils to participate fully and safely on school trips, visits and sporting activities. Risk assessments will be carried out so that planning arrangements take account of any steps needed to ensure that pupils with medical conditions are included. In doing so, pupils, their parents and any relevant healthcare professionals will be consulted.

4) Procedures

When a School is notified that a pupil has a medical condition:

Administration staff, senior members of staff and the adults working with the child will be informed of any medical condition/s. A meeting will be held with parents and other relevant professionals to establish the level of need and to support the completion, where required, of an Individual Healthcare Plan* (IHP). Notes will be completed from all meetings held.

Appropriate paperwork will be completed: risk assessments, the IHP and arrangements, such as purchasing resources which may be required, will be put into place in order to prepare for the child's needs to be met. These tasks will be completed in a timely fashion and will aim to take no longer than 2 weeks.

Updates will be made to all notes and plans as required, although regular meetings will take place to ensure all procedures meets the potentially changing needs of a child. These meetings will take place at least termly or more frequently as required.

5) Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)

Individual Healthcare Plans "IHP" exist to document a child's medical needs and provision being made for those needs (**appendix 1** details the steps for developing Individual Healthcare Plans). They are a useful tool for the schools to use to ensure that it meets the needs of the child. They are written with input from all the relevant parties including the school nurse, welfare assistant and parent.

IHPs will be developed with child's best interests in mind and will ensure that the schools assess and manage risks to the child's education, health and social well-being as well as minimising disruption.

IHPs will be reviewed at least annually or earlier if evidence is presented that the child's needs have changed.

The following Information will be recorded on IHPs:

- The medical condition, its triggers, signs, symptoms and treatments;
- The pupil'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 and environmental issues e.g. Crowded corridors, travel time between lessons;
- Specific support for the pupil's educational, social and emotional needs – for example, how absences will be managed, requirements for extra time to complete exams, use of rest periods or additional support in catching up with lessons, counselling sessions;
- The level of support needed, (some children will be able to take responsibility for their own health needs), including in emergencies. If a child is self-managing their medication, this should be clearly stated with appropriate arrangements for monitoring;
- Who will provide this support, their training needs, expectations of their role and confirmation of proficiency to provide support for the child's medical condition from a healthcare professional; and cover arrangements for when they are unavailable;
- Who in the 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 by the pupil during school hours;
- 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, eg risk assessments;
- Where confidentiality issues are raised by the parent/child, the designated individuals to be entrusted with information about the child's condition; and

- What to do in an emergency, including whom 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.

Appendix 2 shows the IHP format.

6) Children's Roles in Managing Own Medical Needs

Children may be competent to manage some/all their own medical needs and medicines. Where this is the case, this will be clearly stated on their IHP. Children will be positively encouraged to take responsibility, after discussion with parents, and this will be reflected in IHPs. Where a child is reluctant to take on this responsibility, the school will support the child to reach the level of responsibility agreed and this will be documented in the IHP.

Where possible children will carry their own medicines or devices or will be able to access them quickly.

No child will be expected to take on responsibility until they are ready for it and appropriate supervision will still be given if needed.

7) Managing Medicines on School Premises

- Medicines should only be administered at school when it would be detrimental to a child's health or school attendance not to do so.
- The dosage and administration of medicines are checked and signed by (as a minimum) 1 member of staff (a book will be held in the school office).
- Medicines will only be administered when the school's permission slip has been completed and signed by parents/carers
- Where clinically possible, medicines should be prescribed in dose frequencies which enable them to be taken outside school hours
- No child under 16 should be given prescription or non-prescription medicines without their parent's written consent - except in exceptional circumstances where the medicine has been prescribed to the child without the knowledge of the parents. In such cases, every effort should be made to encourage the child or young person to involve their parents while respecting their right to confidentiality.
- The circumstances in which the school will administer non-prescription medicines will be set out in the IHP or, where non-prescription medicines are not covered in the IHP, as laid down in the school's first aid policy.
- A child under 16 should never be given medicine containing aspirin unless prescribed by a doctor.
- Medication, eg for pain relief, should never be administered without first checking maximum dosages and when the previous dose was taken. Parents should be informed.
- The school will only accept prescribed medicines that are in-date, labelled, provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include instructions for administration, dosage and storage. The exception to this is insulin which must still be in date, but may be made available inside an insulin pen or a pump, rather than in its original container.

- All medicines should be stored safely. Children should know where their medicines are at all times and be able to access them immediately. Where relevant, they should know who holds the key to the storage facility. Medicines and devices such as asthma inhalers, blood glucose testing meters and adrenaline pens should be always readily available to children and not locked away. This is particularly important to consider when off school premises e.g. on school trips
- A child who has been prescribed a controlled drug may legally have it in their possession if they are competent to do so, but passing it to another child for use is an offence. Monitoring arrangements may be necessary. The school will otherwise keep controlled drugs that have been prescribed for a pupil securely stored in a non-portable container and only named staff will have access. Controlled drugs must be easily accessible in an emergency. A record will be kept of any doses used and the amount of the controlled drug held in school.
- Appropriately trained school staff may administer a controlled drug to the child for whom it has been prescribed. Staff administering medicines should do so in accordance with the prescriber's instructions. The school will keep a record of all medicines administered to individual children, stating what, how and how much was administered, when and by whom. Any side effects of the medication to be administered at school will be noted.
- When no longer required, medicines should be returned to the parent to arrange for safe disposal. Sharps boxes should always be used for the disposal of needles and other sharps.

8) Record keeping

Written records must be kept of all medicines administered to children

9) Procedures for Emergency Situations

Arrangements will be in place for what to do in the event of an emergency. These will be laid out in the IHP (**Appendix 2**) and will include:

- What constitutes an emergency situation for the child-signs and symptoms
- Who needs to be available to support and what they need to do
- What to do in the event of hospitalisation

10) Unacceptable practice

It will be unacceptable to:

- prevent children from easily accessing their inhalers and medication and administering their medication when and where necessary;
- assume that every child with the same condition requires the same treatment;
- ignore the views of the child or their parents; or ignore medical evidence or opinion, (although this may be challenged);
- send children with medical conditions home frequently or prevent them from staying for normal school activities, including lunch, unless this is specified in their individual healthcare plans;
- if the child becomes ill, send them to the school office or medical room unaccompanied or with someone unsuitable;

- penalise children for their attendance record if their absences are related to their medical condition e.g. hospital appointments;
- prevent pupils from drinking, eating or taking toilet or other breaks whenever they need to in order to manage their medical condition effectively;
- require parents, or otherwise make them feel obliged, to attend school to administer medication or provide medical support to their child, including with toileting issues. No parent should have to give up working because the school is failing to support their child's medical needs; or
- prevent children from participating, or create unnecessary barriers to children participating in any aspect of school life, including school trips, e.g. by requiring parents to accompany the child]

11) Policy Implementation

- The Head Teacher has overall responsibility for the implementation of this policy in our schools
- The school is committed to making sure that all relevant staff will be made aware of the child's condition. Where cover/supply staff or new adults are supporting within a child's class, office staff or the class teacher will explain the children's needs and medication.
- The school has arrangements in place in case of staff absence or staff turnover to ensure someone is always available. Teachers and teaching assistants, as well as at least one member of the administration staff, will be aware of the child's needs and procedures surrounding their daily life at school. The school will endeavour to ensure there is always an adult, who knows the needs of the child, on site.
- The school will make sure risk assessments for school visits, holidays, and other school activities outside of the normal timetable include provision for pupils with medical conditions. Risk assessments for trips will be overseen by the Headteacher.
- The school will monitor individual healthcare plans. IHPs will be reviewed at least annually or earlier if evidence is presented that the child's needs have changed.

12) Roles and Responsibilities

Roles of those involved in providing support for pupils with medical conditions are given in brief as follows:

Trust Board

- Must make sure a policy is in place
- Ensure that appropriate insurance is in place

Governing Bodies

- Must make arrangements to support pupils with medical needs and the policy is implemented
- Must ensure that sufficient staff have received suitable training and are competent before they take on responsibility to support children with medical conditions
- Ensure staff have access to information and other teaching materials

Head teachers

- Ensure policy is developed and adequately implemented with partners
- Make sure all staff are aware of the policy and understand their role in implementation
- Ensure all staff who need to know are aware of a particular child's medical condition
- Ensure sufficient staff are appropriately trained
- Overall responsibility for the development of Individual Healthcare Plans
- Make sure staff adequately insured and made aware of cover
- Making sure school nurse is aware of pupils requiring support

School Staff

- Any member of school 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.
- Although administering medicines is not part of teachers' professional duties, they should take into account the needs of pupils with medical conditions that they teach.
- School staff should receive sufficient and suitable training and achieve the necessary level of competency before they take on responsibility to support children with medical conditions.
- Any member of school staff should know what to do and respond accordingly when they become aware that a pupil with a medical condition needs help.

School Nurses

- The school will either have an employed nurse or access to school nursing services.
- They are responsible for notifying the school when a child has been identified as having a medical condition which will require support in school. Wherever possible, they should do this before the child starts at the school.
- They would not usually have an extensive role in ensuring that schools are taking appropriate steps to support children with medical conditions, but may support staff on implementing a child's individual healthcare plan and provide advice and liaison, for example on training.
- Can liaise with lead clinicians locally on appropriate support for the child and associated staff training needs.

Other Healthcare Professionals

- should notify school nurse of pupils requiring support.
- May provide advice on developing IHPs

Pupils

- Provide information about how their condition affects them.

- They should be fully involved, at a level appropriate to their age and stage, in discussions and contribute to their IHP

Parents

- Provide school with sufficient up to date information
- Are involved in development and review of IHP
- Should carry out any action they agreed to as part of implementation of IHP

Local Authorities

- Are commissioners for school nurses
- Have a duty to promote co-operation between relevant partners

Clinical Commissioning Groups

- Responsible for commissioning other healthcare professionals such as specialist nurses.
- They have to ensure that commissioning is responsive to children's needs and that health services can cooperate with schools

Ofsted

- The inspection framework places clear emphasis on meeting needs of disabled children and pupils with SEN. Inspectors are briefed to consider pupils with medical conditions alongside these groups and to report on how well their needs are being met.

13) Staff Training

The schools have a responsibility to ensure staff are properly trained and any member of staff providing support to a pupil with medical needs will receive suitable training.

Staff must not give prescription medicines or undertake health care procedures without appropriate training.

- Where possible and relevant, staff will be involved with the completion of risk assessments and will be clear on their role in their implementation
- Training needs will be assessed both with professionals such as school nursing, physiotherapists and the staff themselves. Appropriate training will then be sought by school or individuals within the medical team supporting the child and the training will then be undertaken.
- Where required, whole staff training (e.g deaf awareness training) will be arranged in order for all staff to support a child in their daily lives at school
- Staff training will be organised by CPD Lead

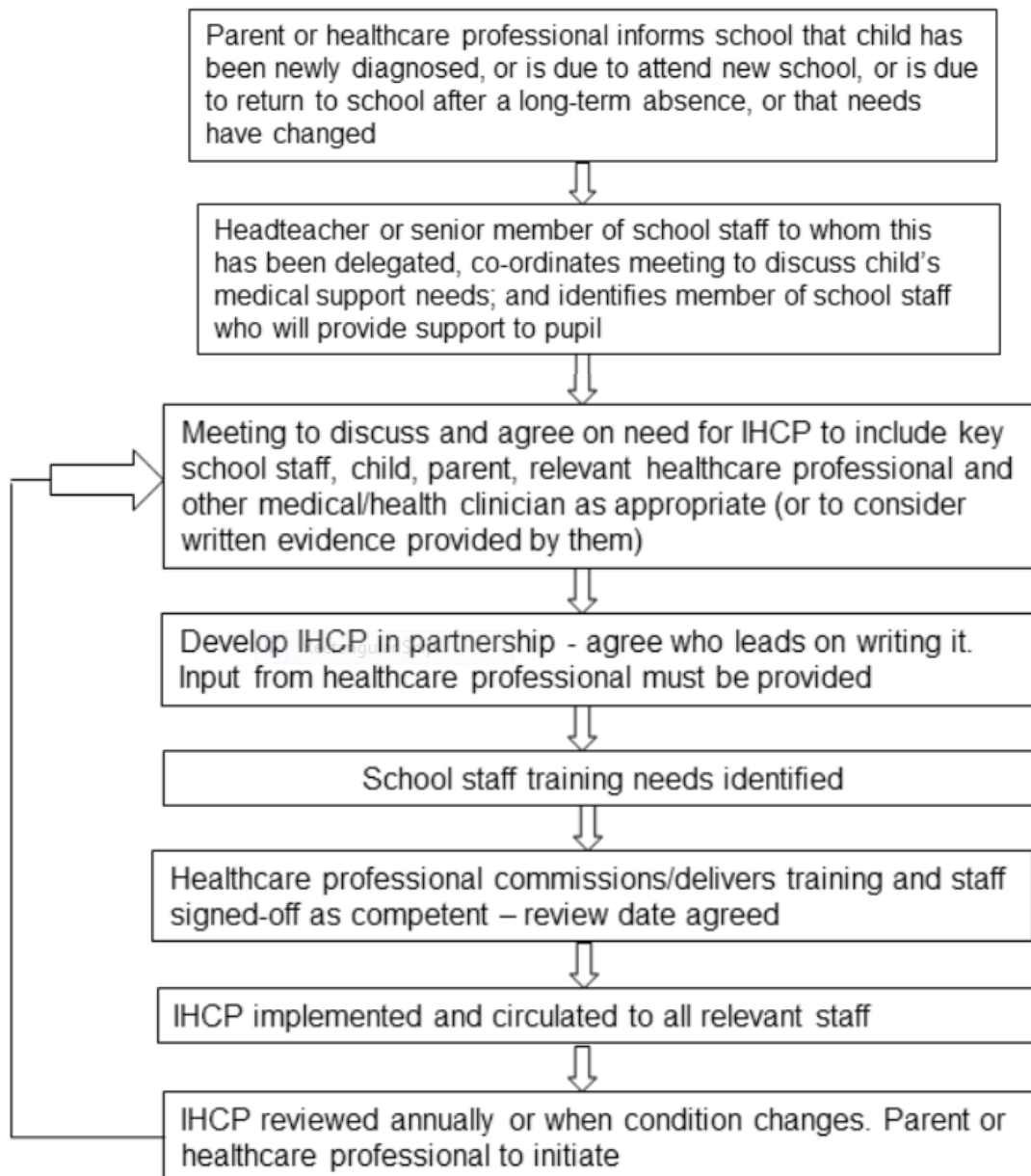
14) Insurance

The Trust Board will ensure that the appropriate level of insurance is in place and appropriately reflects the school's level of risk. To do this, we are a member of the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA).

15) Complaints handling

Any complaint in relation to this policy or the school's implementation of it should be raised in accordance with the school's ordinary complaint's policy.

Annex A: Model process for developing individual healthcare plans



Source
Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions
Statutory Guidance September 2014

Individual Healthcare Plan



Pupil Name:		DOB:
Key Contacts:		

IN AN EMERGENCY...	
What constitutes an emergency	
Who needs to know/be available	
Immediate procedures	
In the event of hospitalisation	

Key Information

The Medical Condition:	
Triggers	
Signs	
Symptoms	
Treatments	

Pupil Needs (1) -Medication and Environment	
Medication (dose, side effects, storage, access)	
See Appendix 2 for: <i>Administering Medicines Slip</i>	
Other Treatments	
Facilities, Resources & Equipment	

Dietary Requirements/Access to Food & Drink	
Environmental Considerations (e.g.crowded corridors, outdoor learning on and off school site)	
Pupil Needs (2) –Educational, Social & Emotional	
Ability to Complete Learning (e.g. need for extra time, resources, support)	
Emotional Needs (support or counselling needs)	
Other	

Key Personnel & Needs	
Key Adult/s and Roles within School	
Key Adults and Roles out of School	
Training Requirements & Completion	
Who Needs to Know and What?	
Other	

We agree that all information on this plan is accurate at the time of writing and meets the most current needs of the child. This plan will be reviewed half termly, termly, year, other specified time.

Name/Role (Please Print)	Signature	Date

Review Date:	
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ADMINISTERING MEDICINES SLIP



Request for the school to administer medication

The school will not give your child medicine unless you complete and sign this form, and the Headteacher has agreed that school staff can administer the medication.

Details of pupil

Surname: **M / F**

Forename(s): **Date of birth:**

Address: **Class:**

.....

.....

Condition or illness

Medication

Name/Type of medication
(as described on the container)

For how long will your child take this medication?

Date dispensed

Full directions for use

Dosage and method

Timing

Special Precautions

Side effects

Self administration

Contact details

Name **Tel No:**

Relationship to pupil

Address (if different to pupil)

I, the parent/ guardian of the above named child, request and give permission for the Headteacher, or person acting on his/her authority, to administer the above medication in emergency circumstances and in accordance with the directions given. I understand that neither the Headteacher nor anyone acting on his/ her authority, nor the Governing Body nor Children's Endeavour Trust will be liable for any illness or injury to the child arising from the administering of the medicine or drug unless caused by the negligence of the Headteacher, the person acting on his/ her authority, the Governing Body or Children's Endeavour Trust, as the case may be. I understand that I must deliver the medicine personally to an agreed member of staff and accept that this is a service which the school is not obliged to undertake.

Signed: **Date:**