



Warren Park Primary School Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions

Introduction

Section 100 of The Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on the Governing Body of this school to make arrangements for supporting children at their premises with medical conditions. The Department for Education have produced statutory guidance 'Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions' and we will have regard to this guidance when meeting this requirement (this document is set for review in 2017).

At Warren Park Primary School the governing body and the Head Teacher is committed to ensuring children with medical conditions are supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education. The aim is to ensure that all children with medical conditions, in terms of both their physical and mental health, are properly supported in school so that they can play a full and active role in school life, remain healthy and achieve their academic potential.

Roles and Responsibilities

It is our policy to ensure that all medical information will be treated confidentially by the Governing Body, Head Teacher and staff. All administration of medicines is arranged and managed in accordance with this document. All staff have a duty of care to follow and co-operate with the requirements of this policy. This policy will be available for all of the above to review and refer to on the teacher's pool.

The Governing Body

- They are responsible for making arrangements to support pupils with medical conditions in school, including making sure that a policy for supporting pupils with medical conditions in school is developed, implemented and regularly reviewed (yearly).
- They will ensure that pupils with medical conditions are supported to enable the fullest participation possible in all aspects of school life.
- They will ensure that sufficient staff have received suitable training and are competent before they take on responsibility to support children with medical conditions.
- They will also ensure that any members of school staff who provide support to pupils with medical conditions are able to access information and other teaching support materials as needed (INSET training, staff meeting and teacher's pool).

Head Teacher

- They will ensure that their school's policy is developed and effectively implemented with partners. This includes ensuring that all staff are aware of the policy for supporting pupils with medical conditions and understand their role in its implementation.
- They will ensure that all staff who need to know are aware of the child's condition. They will also ensure that sufficient trained numbers of staff are available to implement the policy and deliver against all individual healthcare plans, including in contingency and emergency situations. This may involve recruiting a member of staff for this purpose.
- They have overall responsibility for the development of individual healthcare plans. They will also make sure that school staff are appropriately insured and are aware that they are insured to support pupils in this way.
- They will contact the school nursing service in the case of any child who has a medical condition that may require support at school, but who has not yet been brought to the attention of the school nurse or appropriate medical agencies.
- They will support the teachers and teaching staff by insuring the relevant training.

Teachers and Support Staff

- They 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 will take into account the needs of pupils with medical conditions that they teach.
- School staff will 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 will know what to do and respond accordingly when they become aware that a pupil with a medical condition needs help.
- They will be responsible for the recording of medicines given, using the schools 'Administration of Medicines Policy'
- They will work with external medical agencies to report back changes in conditions.
- They will review children's individual care plans for pupils in their care.

Year Group Leaders and Lynne Lofting

- Lynne Lofting will ensure Care Plans are passed on to the new year groups; and that an opportunity to ask questions and plan in training, occurs during transition meetings in July
- Year Group Leaders must ensure all staff are aware of the Care Plan and are comfortable with their responsibilities for the care of individuals.
- Year Group Leaders must be aware of any changes and pass these on as above
- Care plans are located in the medical room and on the CPOMS system. Michelle Copping puts them on the system at the beginning of the academic year.

School Nurses/ Medical Agencies

- The school has 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.
- School nurses can liaise with lead clinicians locally on appropriate support for the child and associated staff training needs - for example, there are good models of local specialist nursing teams offering training to local school staff, hosted by a local school.
- Community nursing teams are also a valuable potential resource for a school seeking advice and support in relation to children with a medical condition.

Identifying Children with Health Conditions

It is a statutory requirement that the schools governing body and head teacher will ensure that this policy sets out the procedures to be followed whenever a school is notified that a pupil has a medical condition.

- We will aim to identify children with medical needs on entry to the school by working in partnership with parents/ carers and following the process of induction with a 'Medical Questionnaire'.
- We will use the 'Medical Questionnaire' to obtain the information required for each child's medical needs to ensure that we have appropriate arrangements in place prior to the child commencing at the school to support them accordingly.
- Where a formal diagnosis is awaited or is unclear, we will plan to implement arrangements to support the child, based on the current evidence available for their condition.
- We will ensure that every effort is made to involve some formal medical evidence and consultation with the parents.
- From all of the above information we will ensure a care plan is produced for the individual child.

Individual health care plans

It is a statutory requirement that the schools governing body and head teacher will ensure that this policy covers the role of individual healthcare plans, and who is responsible for their development in supporting children at school with medical conditions.

We recognise that Individual Care Plans are recommended in particular where conditions fluctuate or where there is a high risk that emergency intervention will be needed. That Care Plans are likely to be helpful in the majority of other cases, especially where medical conditions are long term and complex, however not all children will require one. The school, healthcare professional and parent will agree based on evidence when a healthcare plan would be inappropriate or disproportionate. Where children require an individual healthcare plan Michelle Copping will work with parents and relevant healthcare professionals to write the plan.

A healthcare plan (and its review) may be initiated in consultation with the parent/carer, by a member of school staff or by a healthcare professional involved in providing care to the child. Michelle Copping, and where appropriate Lynne Lofting, will work in partnership with the parents/carer, and a relevant healthcare professional e.g. school, specialist or children's community nurse, who can best advise on the particular needs of the child to draw up and/or review the plan. Where a child has a special educational need identified in a statement or Educational Health Care (EHC) plan, the individual healthcare plan will be linked to or become part of that statement or EHC plan.

If a child is returning following a period of hospital education or alternative provision (including home tuition), that we will work with Hampshire County Council and education provider to ensure that the individual healthcare plan identifies the support the child will need to reintegrate effectively.

Each plan will be reviewed annually unless a child's arrangements or condition changes, in which case the plan will be reviewed accordingly.

Statutory Requirement of Care Plans

The governing body and the head teacher should ensure that all plans are reviewed at least annually or earlier if evidence is presented that the child's needs have changed. This will be monitored through spot checks from the Governing Body. Plans should be developed with the child's best interests in mind and ensure that the school assesses and manages the risks to the child's education, health and social well-being and minimise disruption.

Care Plans Will Include Consideration of the Following:

- 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, e.g. 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.

Staff Training

It is a statutory requirement that the schools governing body and head teacher will ensure that this policy sets out how staff will be supported in carrying out their role to support children with medical conditions, and how this will be reviewed. It should specify how training needs will be assessed and by whom training will be commissioned and provided. Any member of school staff, at Warren Park Primary School, providing support to a child with medical needs should have received suitable training. Staff must not administer prescription medicines or undertake any health care procedures without the appropriate training (updated to reflect any individual healthcare plans)

- All new staff will be inducted on the policy when they join the school through the school induction procedures. Records of this training will be stored in the Health and Safety training folder.
- All nominated staff will be provided awareness training on the school's policy for supporting children with medical conditions which will include what their role is in implementing the policy. This training will be carried out following each review of the policy.
- The awareness training will be provided to staff at a staff meeting. We will retain evidence that staff have been provided the relevant awareness training on the policy by the use of signature sheets.
- Where required we will work with the relevant healthcare professionals to identify and agree the type and level of training required and identify where the training can be obtained from. This will include ensuring that the training is sufficient to ensure staff are competent and confident in their ability to support children with medical conditions. The training will include preventative and emergency measures so that staff can recognise and act quickly when a problem occurs and therefore allow them to fulfil the requirements set out in the individual healthcare plan.
- Any training undertaken will form part of the overall training plan for the school and refresher awareness training will be scheduled at appropriate intervals agreed with the relevant healthcare professional delivering the training.
- A 'Staff training record' is kept by Anna Evans which records any awareness training undertaken, the date of training and the competent professional providing the training.

The Child's Role

Where possible and in discussion with parents, children that are competent will be encouraged to take responsibility for managing their own medicines and procedures. This will be recorded in their individual healthcare plan. The healthcare plan will reference what will happen should a child who self-administers refuse to take their medication (this will normally be informing the parent/carer at the earliest opportunity).

Where possible we will endeavour to ensure that children have easy access to allow for quick self-medication. We will agree with relevant healthcare professionals/parent the appropriate level of supervision required and document this in their healthcare plan.

Managing medicines on School Premises

The administration of medicines is the overall responsibility of the parents/carers. Where clinically possible we will encourage parents to ask for medicines to be prescribed in dose frequencies which enable them to be taken outside of school hours. However, the Head Teacher is responsible for ensuring children are supported with their medical needs whilst on site, which may include managing medicines where it would be detrimental to a child's health or school attendance not to do so.

We will not give prescription or non-prescription medicines to a child under 16 without their parent's/carers written consent (a 'parental agreement for setting to administer medicines' form will be used to record this), except in exceptional circumstances where the medicine has been prescribed to the child without the knowledge of the parents. In such cases, we will make every effort to encourage the child or young person to involve their parents while respecting their right to confidentiality.

- A documented tracking system to record all medicines received in and out of the premises is in place.
- The name of the child, dose, expiry and shelf life dates will be checked before medicines are administered.
- If a child refuses to take their medication the parents will be informed at the earliest available opportunity.
- We will only accept prescribed medicines that are in date, labelled, provided in the original container as dispensed by the pharmacist and include instructions for administration, their dosage and storage. Insulin is the exception, which must still be in date but will generally be available to schools inside an insulin pen or a pump, rather than its original container.
- Children who are able to use their own inhalers themselves are encouraged to do so. If the child is too young or immature to take personal responsibility for their inhaler, staff should help.
- All inhalers are stored in a safe but readily accessible place (usually in the pods in classes, the OC have a shared inhaler in their first aid kit), and clearly marked with the child's name.
- Controlled drugs will be securely stored in a non-portable container which only named staff will have access to. We will ensure that the drugs are easily accessible in an emergency situation. A record will be kept of any doses used and the amount of the controlled drug held in school. There may be instances where it is deemed appropriate for a child to administer their own controlled medication. This would normally be at the advice of a medical practitioner. Where an individual child is competent to do so and following a risk assessment, we may allow them to have prescribed controlled drugs on them with monitoring arrangements in place.
- We will only administer non-prescribed medicines on request from the parent if they are in clearly identifiable packaging and only on a short term basis (Where the school have concerns they will seek further guidance from their link School Nurse).
- We may administer age appropriate school Calpol, at parent's request, after a phone call explaining symptoms. This will be recorded following school procedures and parents will be informed.
- All other pain relief medicine will not be administered without first checking maximum dosages and when previously taken. We will always inform parents.
- Any homeopathic remedies to be administered will require a letter of consent from the child's doctor and will be administered at the discretion of the Head Teacher.
- Emergency medicines will be stored in a safe location but not locked away to ensure they are easily accessible in the case of an emergency.

Types of emergency medicines include:

- *Injections of adrenaline for acute allergic reactions*
- *Inhalers for asthmatics*
- *Injections of Glucagon for diabetic hypoglycaemia*

- *Other emergency medication i.e. Rectal diazepam or Buccal Midazolam for major seizures will be stored in accordance with the normal prescribed medicines procedures (see storage section).*

Storage

- All medication other than emergency medication will be stored safely in the school office where it cannot be easily tampered with and cannot be easily removed from the premise.
- Where medicines need to be refrigerated, they will be stored in a refrigerator in the medical room, clearly labelled. There must be restricted access to a refrigerator holding medicines.
- Children will not be allowed to access medicines for themselves but will report to the school office when medication is due.
- Medicines such as asthma inhalers, blood glucose testing meters and adrenaline pens will always be readily available to children and not locked away. We will also ensure that they are readily available when outside of the school premises or on school trips.
- Storage of medication whilst off site will be maintained at steady temperature and secure. There will be appropriately trained staff present to administer day to day and emergency medication and copies of individual health care plans will be taken off site to ensure appropriate procedures are followed.

Disposal

It is the responsibility of the parents/carers to dispose of their child's medicines. It is our policy to return any medicines that are no longer required including those where the date has expired to the parents/carers. Parents/carers will be informed of this when the initial agreements are made to administer medicines. Medication returned to parent/ carers will be documented on the tracking medication form.

When necessary, sharps boxes will be in place for the disposal of needles. Collection and disposal of these will be arranged locally through the School Nursing Team.

Medical Accommodation

The Medical Room will be used for all medical administration/treatment purposes. The location/room will be made available when required. For security the medical room has lock with PIN code to open which ensures children seek the help of an adult before entering the door.

Record Keeping

A record of what has been administered including how much, when and by whom, will be recorded. The form will be kept on file. Any possible side effects of the medication will also be noted and reported to the parent/carers.

Emergency Procedures

Where a child has an individual healthcare plan, this will clearly define what constitutes an emergency and provide a process to follow. All relevant staff will be made aware of the emergency symptoms and procedures. We will ensure other children in the school know what to do in the event of an emergency i.e. informing a teacher immediately if they are concerned about the health of another child.

Where a child is required to be taken to hospital, a member of staff will stay with the child until their parent(s) arrive, this includes accompanying them to hospital by ambulance if necessary (taking any relevant medical information, care plans etc. that the school holds).

Trips and Residential

Before arranging a trip/residential teachers will review Care Plans and ensure that are aware of how a child's medical condition will impact on their participation in any off site activity or day trip, we will ensure that there is enough flexibility for all children to participate according to their own abilities within reasonable adjustments.

Teachers will consider what reasonable adjustments we might make to enable children with medical needs to participate fully and safely on visits.

We will carry out a risk assessment so that planning arrangements take account of any steps needed to ensure that pupils with medical conditions are included. We will consult with parents and pupils and advice from the relevant healthcare professional to ensure that pupils can participate safely.

Teachers should provide a risk assessment that plans in arrangements and takes account of any steps needed to ensure that pupils with medical conditions are included. We will consult with parents and pupils and advice from the relevant healthcare professional to ensure that pupils can participate safely.

Unacceptable Practice

Staff are expected to use their discretion and judge each child's individual healthcare plan on its merits, it is not generally acceptable practice 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
- 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.

Liability and Indemnity

Staff at the school are indemnified under the County Council self-insurance arrangements. The County Council's is self-insured and have extended this self-insurance to indemnify school staff who have agreed to administer medication or undertake a medical procedure to children. To meet the requirements of the indemnification, we will ensure that staff at the school have parents' permission for administering medicines and members of staff will have had training on the administration of the medication or medical procedure.

Complaints

Should parents or children be dissatisfied with the support provided they can discuss their concerns directly with the Head Teacher. If for whatever reason this does not resolve the issue, they may make a formal complaint via the school's complaints procedure.