



SUPPORTING PUPILS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS POLICY

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The Downs Primary School and Nursery
Part of the Passmores Co-operative Learning Community

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1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Pupils, staff and parents understand how our school will support pupils with medical conditions
- Pupils with medical conditions are properly supported to allow them to access the same education as other pupils, including school trips and sporting activities

The governing board will implement this policy by:

- Making sure sufficient staff are suitably trained
- Making staff aware of pupil's condition, where appropriate
- Making sure there are cover arrangements to ensure someone is always available to support pupils with medical conditions
- Providing supply teachers with appropriate information about the policy and relevant pupils
- Developing and monitoring Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) – Appendix 1.

The named persons with responsibility for implementing this policy are the Headteacher, SENCO and Assistant SENCO.

2. Legislation and statutory responsibilities

This policy meets the requirements under [Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014](#), which places a duty on governing boards to make arrangements for supporting pupils at their school with medical conditions.

It is also based on the Department for Education's statutory guidance: [Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions](#).

This policy also complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 The governing board

The governing board has ultimate responsibility to make arrangements to support pupils with medical conditions. The governing board will ensure that sufficient staff have received suitable training and are competent before they are responsible for supporting children with medical conditions.

3.2 The Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- Make sure all staff are aware of this policy and understand their role in its implementation

- Ensure that there are enough trained staff available to implement this policy and deliver against all IHPs, including in contingency and emergency situations
- Take overall responsibility for the development of IHPs
- Make sure that school staff are appropriately insured and aware that they are insured to support pupils in this way
- Ensure that systems are in place for obtaining information about a child's medical needs and that this information is kept up to date

3.3 SENCO. Assistant SENCO

The SENCO/ Assistant SENCO will:

- Ensure IHPs are completed and up to date
- Contact the school nursing service in the case of any pupil 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
- Complete termly medication audits to ensure medication is in date and present at school

3.4 Office Staff

Ensure that updated IHPs and IHPs for new pupils are scanned onto Arbor.

3.5 Staff

Supporting pupils with medical conditions during school hours is not the sole responsibility of one person. Any member of staff may be asked to provide support to pupils with medical conditions, although they will not be required to do so. This includes the administration of medicines.

Those staff who take on the responsibility of supporting pupils with medical conditions will receive sufficient and suitable training and will achieve the necessary level of competency before doing so.

Teachers will take into account the needs of pupils with medical conditions that they teach. All staff will know what to do and respond accordingly when they become aware that a pupil with a medical condition needs help.

3.6 Parents

Parents will:

- Provide the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs
- Complete and sign their child's IHP, ensuring all relevant medical conditions, needs and medications are detailed.

- Carry out any action they have agreed to as part of the implementation of the IHP e.g. providing in date medicines and equipment

3.7 Pupils

Pupils with medical conditions will often be best placed to provide information about how their condition affects them. Pupils should be fully involved in discussions about their medical support needs and contribute as much as possible to the development of their IHPs. They are also expected to comply with their IHPs.

3.8 School nurses and other healthcare professionals

Our school nursing service will notify the school when a pupil has been identified as having a medical condition that will require support in school. This will be before the pupil starts school, wherever possible.

Healthcare professionals, such as GPs and paediatricians, will liaise with the school nurse and notify them of any pupils identified as having a medical condition.

4. Equal opportunities

Our school is 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 school will consider what reasonable adjustments need to be made to enable these pupils to participate fully and safely in school trips, visits and sporting activities.

Risk assessments will be carried out so that planning arrangements can take account of any steps needed to ensure that pupils with medical conditions are included. In doing so, where applicable, pupils, their parents and any relevant healthcare professionals will be consulted.

5. Being notified that a child has a medical condition

When the school is notified that a pupil has a medical condition, the process outlined below will be followed to decide whether the pupil requires an IHP.

The school will make every effort to ensure that arrangements are put into place within 2 weeks, or by the beginning of the relevant term for pupils who are new to our school.

See Appendix 2.

6. Individual healthcare plans

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for the development of IHPs for pupils with medical conditions. This has been delegated to the SENCO/ Assistant SENCO.

Plans will be reviewed annually, or earlier if there is evidence that the pupil's needs have changed.

Plans will be developed with the pupil's best interests in mind and will detail:

- Medical conditions/ diagnoses
- Medication required, including dosage
- Permission for staff to administer medication, as applicable

Not all pupils with a medical condition will require an IHP. It will be agreed with parents, school staff and when applicable, a healthcare professional, when an IHP would be inappropriate or disproportionate. This will be based on evidence. If there is not a consensus, the headteacher will make the final decision.

Plans will be drawn up in partnership with the school, parents and a relevant healthcare professional, such as the school nurse, specialist or paediatrician, who can best advise on the pupil's specific needs. The pupil will be involved wherever appropriate.

7. Managing medicines

Prescription and non-prescription medicines will only be administered at school under the following circumstances:

- When it would be detrimental to the pupil's health or school attendance not to do so **and**
- Where we have parents' written consent

The only exception to this is where the medicine has been prescribed to the pupil without the knowledge of the parents.

Pupils under 16 will not be given medicine containing aspirin unless prescribed by a doctor.

Anyone giving a pupil any medication (for example, for pain relief) will first check maximum dosages and when the previous dosage was taken. Parents will always be informed.

The school 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, dosage and storage

The school will accept insulin that is inside an insulin pen or pump rather than its original container, but it must be in date.

All medicines will be stored safely. Pupils will be informed about where their medicines are at all times and will be able to access them immediately. Medicines and devices such as asthma inhalers, blood glucose testing meters and adrenaline pens will always be readily available to pupils and not locked away.

Medicines will be returned to parents to arrange for safe disposal when no longer required.

7.1 Controlled drugs

[Controlled drugs](#) are prescription medicines that are controlled under the [Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001](#) and subsequent amendments, such as morphine or methadone.

A pupil who has been prescribed a controlled drug may have it in their possession if they are competent to do so, but they must not pass it on to another pupil to use. All other controlled drugs are kept in a secure cupboard in the school office and only named staff have access.

Controlled drugs will be easily accessible in an emergency and a record of any doses used and the amount held will be kept.

7.2 Pupils managing their own needs

Pupils who are competent will be encouraged to take responsibility for managing their own medicines and procedures. This will be discussed with parents, and it will be reflected in their IHPs.

Pupils will be allowed to carry their own medicines and relevant devices when applicable. Staff will not force a pupil to take a medicine or carry out a necessary procedure if they refuse but will follow the procedure agreed in the IHP and inform parents so that an alternative option can be considered, if necessary.

7.3 Unacceptable practice

School staff should use their discretion and judge each case individually with reference to the pupil's IHP, but it is generally not acceptable to:

- Prevent pupils from easily accessing and administering their medication, when required
- Assume that every pupil with the same condition requires the same treatment
- Ignore the views of the pupil or their parents
- Ignore medical evidence or opinion (although this may be challenged)
- Send children with medical conditions home frequently for reasons associated with their medical condition or prevent them from staying for normal school activities, including lunch, unless this is specified in their IHPs
- If the pupil becomes ill, send them to the school office or medical room unaccompanied or with someone unsuitable
- Penalise pupils 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 pupil, 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 pupils from participating, or create unnecessary barriers to pupils participating in any aspect of school life, including school trips, e.g. by requiring parents to accompany their child
- Administer, or ask pupils to administer, medicine in school toilets

8. Emergency procedures

Staff will follow the school's normal emergency procedures (for example, calling 999). All pupils' IHPs will clearly set out what constitutes an emergency and will explain what to do.

If a pupil needs to be taken to hospital, staff will stay with the pupil until the parent arrives or accompany the pupil to hospital by ambulance.

9. Training

Staff who are responsible for supporting pupils with medical needs will receive the required training to do so.

The relevant healthcare professionals will lead on identifying the type and level of training required and will agree this with the headteacher/ SENCO/ Assistant SENCO. Training will be kept up to date.

Training will:

- Be sufficient to ensure that staff are competent and have confidence in their ability to support the pupils
- Fulfil the requirements in the IHPs
- Help staff to have an understanding of the specific medical conditions they are being asked to deal with, their implications and preventative measures

Healthcare professionals will provide confirmation of the proficiency of staff in a medical procedure, or in providing medication, where applicable.

This policy will be shared with all staff. This will be provided for new staff during their induction.

10. Record keeping

The governing board will ensure that written records are kept of all medicine administered to pupils. Parents will be informed if their child has been unwell at school.

IHPs are uploaded to Arbor. Paper copies are kept with the medication. Class based medication is kept in the medical bags in the classrooms. Lunchtime medication and refrigerated medication are stored in the main school office.

11. Liability and indemnity

The governing board will ensure that the appropriate level of insurance is in place and appropriately reflects the school's level of risk.

The details of the school's insurance policy are:

Cover for the medical malpractice is given as standard under the Public Liability section of the policy up to the extent of the limit of indemnity applying to the respective policy. Cover is given for those individuals who are suitably qualified either in terms of a particular condition or procedure. However, intervention should only be given up to the extent of an individual's qualification & should a situation present itself which is outside the scope of their training or qualification or indeed they are not comfortable in dealing with then professional assistance should be summonsed via the emergency services.

12. Complaints

Parents with complaints relating to their child's medical needs should discuss these directly with the headteacher in the first instance. If the headteacher cannot resolve the matter, they will direct parents to the school's complaints procedure.

13. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed and approved by the governing board every year.

14. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility Policy
- Complaints Policy
- PCLC Equality Statement
- First Aid Policy
- PCLC Health and Safety Policy
- PCLC Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- SEND and Inclusion Policy and SEND Information Report
- Intimate Care Policy

Appendix 1: Individual Healthcare Plan

PUPIL MEDICAL INFORMATION			
Child's name:	Date of Birth:	Date:	To be reviewed yearly (or earlier if required)
Family/ Emergency Contact Information:			
Name:	Relationship to child:	Address:	Contact numbers:
Name:	Relationship to child:	Address:	Contact numbers:
Name:	Relationship to child:	Address:	Contact numbers:
GP name and address:		GP phone no.:	
Medical condition/diagnosis:			
Signs/Symptoms and Triggers:			
Name of medicine:			
Expiry date of medicine:			
How much to give (dosage):			
When to be given (time and details such as before or after food etc):			
Special instructions (please attach a detailed treatment plan from your child's doctor, if applicable):			
Side effects of medicine:			
Procedures to take in an emergency:			
I give permission for the school to contact paramedics in the case of an emergency.			
I give permission for the school to administer First Aid if necessary.			
I agree to ensure all medication required in present and in date.			
I will inform the school immediately in writing of any changes to my child's medical needs, including dosage and frequency of medication, or if the medication is stopped.			

The following are for children with specific medical needs and will only apply to certain children:

I give permission for my child to use their asthma inhaler at school, as recommended by a healthcare professional.

I give permission for my child to use the school's spare asthma inhaler and spacer in emergencies.

I give permission for a staff member to administer my child's adrenaline auto-injector (AAI) (EpiPen) in the case of anaphylaxis.

I give permission for a staff member to administer the school's spare AAI (EpiPen) to my child, in the case of anaphylaxis.

I give permission for my child to use their diabetes equipment at school, as recommended by a healthcare professional.

I give permission for the school staff to administer medicine in accordance with the school policy.

The above information is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate at the time of writing. I accept it is my responsibility to ensure that any changes are reported to the school in writing. I accept responsibility that all medicines required are present and in date and that it is not the school's responsibility to chase outstanding medicines or medical information.

Parent/ Carer Signature:

Printed Name:

Date:

All medicines must be in their original box or container. All prescribed medicines must be provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include the instructions for administration. This form must be submitted along with medication before staff are able to administer.

Appendix 2: Being notified that a child has a medical condition

