



Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy



Maritime
Academy
Trust

Date of Last Review:	June 2022
Approved by:	Transition Board (June 2022)
Date of Next Review:	June 2023

Introduction

On 1 September 2014 a new duty came into force for governing bodies to make arrangements to support pupils at school with medical conditions. The aim is to ensure that all children with medical conditions, in terms of both 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.

Parents of children with medical conditions are often concerned that their child's health will deteriorate when they attend school. This is because pupils with long-term and complex medical conditions may require ongoing support, medicines or care while at school to help them manage their condition and keep them well. Others may require monitoring and interventions in emergency circumstances. It is also the case that children's health needs may change over time, in ways that cannot always be predicted, sometimes resulting in extended absences. It is therefore important that parents feel confident that school will provide effective support for their child's medical condition and that pupils feel safe. In making decisions about the support we provide, we establish relationships with relevant local health services to help them. We receive and fully consider advice from healthcare professionals and listen to and value the views of parents and pupils.

In addition to the educational impacts, there are social and emotional implications associated with medical conditions. Children may be self-conscious about their condition and some may be bullied or develop emotional disorders, such as anxiety or depression around their medical condition. In particular, long-term absences due to health problems affect children's educational attainment, impact on their ability to integrate with their peers and affect their general wellbeing and emotional health. Reintegration back into school should be properly supported so that children with medical conditions fully engage with learning and do not fall behind when they are unable to attend. Short-term and frequent absences, including those for appointments connected with a pupil's medical condition (which can often be lengthy), also need to be effectively managed and appropriate support put in place to limit the impact on the child's educational attainment and emotional and general wellbeing.

Some children with medical conditions may be considered to be disabled under the definition set out in the Equality Act 2010. Some may also have special educational needs (SEN) and may have a statement, or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan which brings together health and social care needs, as well as their special educational provision. For children with SEN, this guidance should be read in conjunction with the Special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice. The Special educational needs and disability code of practice explains the duties of local authorities, health bodies, schools and colleges to provide for those with special educational needs under part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014. For pupils who have medical conditions that require EHC plans, compliance with the SEND code of practice will ensure compliance with this guidance with respect to those children.

Barnsole is an inclusive community that supports and welcomes pupils with medical conditions.

- Our school is welcoming and supportive of pupils with medical conditions. It provides children with medical conditions with the same opportunities and access to activities (both school based and out of-school) as other pupils.
- We listen to the views of pupils and parents/carers
- All staff understand their duty of care to children and know what to do in the event of an emergency.
- The school understands that all children with the same medical condition will not have the same needs, our school will focus on the needs of each individual child.
- The school recognises its duties as detailed in Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Some children with medical conditions may be considered to be disabled under the definition set out in the Equality Act 2010. Where this is the case, this school complies with their duties under that Act. Some may also have special educational needs (SEN) and may have a statement, or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan which brings together health and social care needs, as well as their special educational provision. For children with SEN, this policy should be read in conjunction with the Special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice.

This school's Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy is drawn up in consultation with a wide range of local key stakeholders within both the school and health settings.

- Stakeholders include pupils, parents/carers, school nurse, the school Inclusion Team, other school staff, governors, and relevant local health specialist services.
- Pupils, parents/carers, relevant local healthcare staff, and other external stakeholders are informed of and reminded about the medical conditions policy through clear communication channels.
- All children with medical conditions that are complex, long-term or where there is a high risk that emergency intervention will be required at this school have an individual healthcare plan (IHP), which explains what help they need in an emergency. The IHP will accompany a pupil should they need to attend hospital.
- Parental and school management permission will be sought and recorded in the IHP for its use, and schools will always share an Individual Health Care Plan as necessary within emergency care settings.
- Barnsole makes sure that all staff providing support to a pupil have received suitable training and ongoing support to ensure that they have confidence to provide the necessary support and that they fulfil the requirements set out in the pupil's IHP.

Definition of Medical Conditions

Pupils' medical needs can be broadly summarised into two types:

- *Short-term* which affects their participation in activities because they are on a course of medication;
- *Long-term* which potentially limits their access to education because they require extra care and support.

Responsibility

Senior Leaders

Senior Leaders are responsible for:

- Ensuring a sufficient number of trained members of staff are available to implement the policy and deliver Individual Healthcare Plans (IHCP) in normal, contingency and emergency situations;
- Providing training and cyclical refresher training;
- Making staff aware of a child's medical condition;
- Liaising with healthcare professionals regarding the training required for staff, including ensuring that the school nursing service is consulted in the case of any pupil who has a medical condition;
- Developing and implementing EHCPs with the Senior First Aid Officer, Inclusion Team and Senior Leaders.

Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Taking appropriate steps to support children with medical conditions.
- Making reasonable adjustments to include pupils with medical conditions into lessons.
- Administering medication under controlled conditions, when medically necessary, if they have agreed to undertake that responsibility.
- Undertaking training to achieve the necessary competency for supporting pupils with medical conditions, where the support may be emergency in nature, e.g. administering epi-pens or calling an ambulance.
- Familiarising themselves with procedures detailing how to respond when they become aware that a pupil with a medical condition needs help.
- Referring pupils to a First Aider if they have any concerns about a pupil's health.
- Referring pupils to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), if they have any concerns about a pupil's health or wellbeing.

School Nurse

The School Nurse is responsible for:

- Notifying the school when a pupil has been identified as requiring support in school due to a medical condition.

- Liaising locally with lead clinicians on appropriate support.

Parents/Carers

Parents/Carers are responsible for:

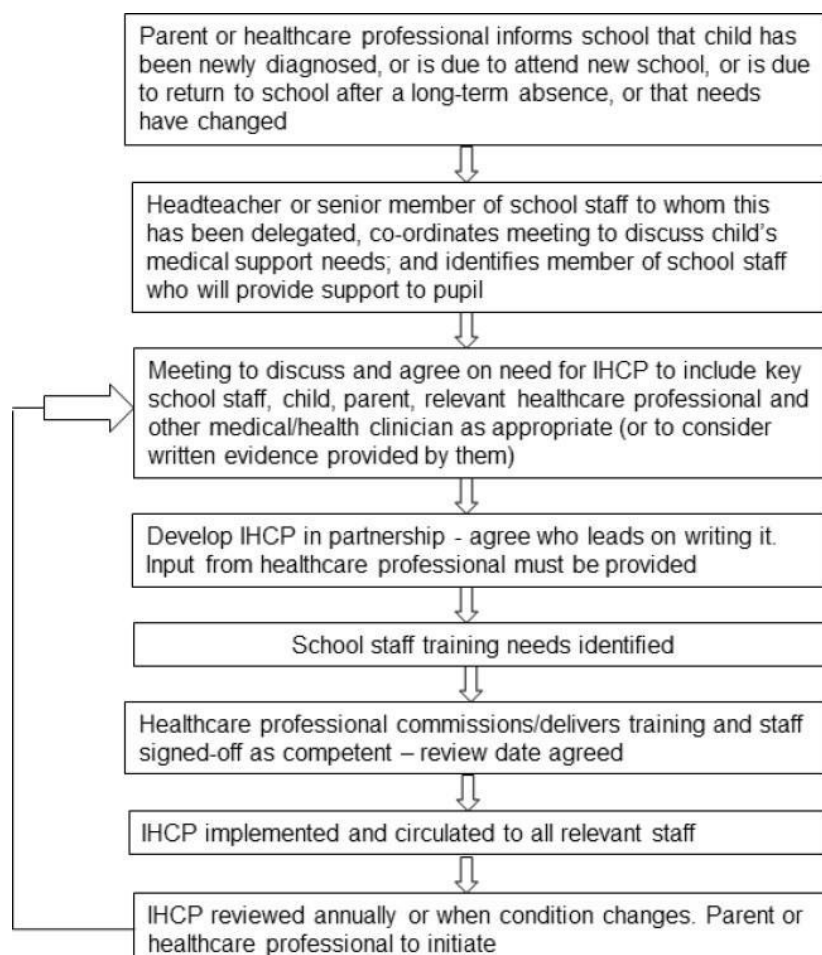
- Keeping the school informed about any changes to their child's health;
- Discussing medications with their child prior to requesting that a staff member administers their medication;
- Ensuring that they have provided written consent for the school to administer medicine;
- Providing the school with the medication that their child requires and keeping it up to date;
- Collecting any leftover medicine at the end of the course or year;
- Where necessary, developing an IHCP for their child in collaboration with relevant staff members and healthcare professionals.

Pupils

- If pupils refuse to take medication or to carry out a necessary procedure, parents will be informed so that alternative options can be explored.
- Where appropriate and with parental permission, pupils will be encouraged to take their own medication under the supervision of a teacher.

Individual Healthcare Plans (IHCPs) otherwise known as care plans

Where necessary, an IHCP or EHCP will be developed in collaboration with the pupil, parents/carers, first aid staff, SENCO and medical professionals. All IHCP will be signed off by the Premises Manager and/or SENCO and will be easily accessible whilst preserving confidentiality. The process for developing IHCPs is summarised below.



IHCPs will be reviewed at least annually or when a child's medical circumstances change, whichever is sooner.

Where a pupil has an EHCP, the IHCP will be linked to it or become part of it.

When a pupil is returning from a period of hospital education, alternative provision or home tuition, the school will work with the LA and education provider to ensure that the IHCP identifies the support the child needs to reintegrate.

Administering Medicines

The following should be adhered to in relation to administering medicines:

- Medicines should only be administered when it would be detrimental to a child's health or school attendance not to do so;
- No pupil 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;
- A pupil under 16 should never be given medicine containing aspirin unless prescribed by a doctor. Medication, e.g. for pain relief, should never be administered without first checking maximum dosages and when the previous dose was taken. Parents should be informed, where clinically possible, that medicines should be prescribed in dose frequencies which enable them to be taken outside school hours;
- 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 will generally be 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 outside of school premises, e.g. on school trips;
- The school will keep controlled drugs that have been prescribed for a pupil securely stored in a non-portable container and only named staff will have access to it whilst still ensuring that it is easily accessible in an emergency. A record should be kept of any doses used and the amount of the controlled drug held in school;
- Staff may administer a controlled drug to the child for whom it has been prescribed providing that they have received specialist training/instruction. A first-aid certificate does not constitute appropriate training in supporting children with medical conditions;
- 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 will also 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 sharp objects.