



North Leamington School

**Supporting Students with Medical
Conditions Policy**

June 2021

Approval and Review

This Policy is reviewed in discussion with staff and governors.

Effective from: June 2021

Approved by: NLS Governing Body

Review date: June 2023

Review leader: SENDCO / Senior Assistant Headteacher

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1. Aims

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

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 governing bodies must comply 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 guidance should be read in conjunction with the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice (2014).

This policy aims to ensure that all school staff, students, parents/carers and governors are aware of the procedures to be followed in the event of medicines being brought and administered in school to students, and to ensure that such children access and enjoy the same opportunities in school as any other child.

The named person with responsibility for implementing this policy is the Senior Assistant Headteacher and SENCO.

2. Roles and responsibilities

2.1 The Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- Ensuring all staff are aware of this policy and understand their role in its implementation.
- Ensuring that there is a sufficient number of trained staff available to implement this policy and deliver against all individual healthcare plans (IHPs), including in contingency and emergency situations.
- Ensuring that school staff are appropriately insured and aware that they are insured to support students in this way.
- Ensuring that systems are in place for obtaining information about a child's medical needs and that relevant staff members keep this information up to date.

2.2 Staff

Staff members are responsible for:

- Taking appropriate steps to support children with medical conditions
- Where necessary, making reasonable adjustments to include students with medical conditions in lessons.
- Administering medication, if they have agreed to undertake that responsibility.
- Undertaking training to achieve the necessary competency for supporting students with medical conditions as appropriate.
- Familiarising themselves with the medical needs of students in school as well as procedures of how to respond when they become aware that a student with a medical condition needs help.
- Creating risk assessments if necessary to support individual conditions.
- Liaising with School Nurses and other healthcare professionals to ensure that any changes to Healthcare Plans are identified, or where students require in school support due to a medical condition.

2.3 Parents

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs including letters from relevant professionals.
- Providing written consent for medication to be administered in school.
- Carrying out any action they have agreed to as part of the implementation of the IHP e.g. provide up to date medication and equipment as required.
- Providing named up to date medication if school are keeping it on site, with clear guidance of dosage.

3. Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for the implementation of IHP's for students with medical conditions. This has been delegated to the IEN Faculty Leader.

IHP's are created by Health care professionals in partnership with the child's parents and the school. The aim of IHPs should be to capture the steps which the school should take to help the child manage their condition and overcome any potential barriers to getting the most from their education and how they might work with other statutory services. School will implement any necessary actions and requirements and will liaise with professionals for relevant training and guidance.

IHPs will be readily accessible to staff in school Plans will be reviewed annually or if there is evidence that the student's needs have changed. This would be reviewed annually alongside EHCP provision and support if student has an EHCP.

4. Procedures

1. Non prescription medicines:

Staff should never give a non prescription medicine to a student unless there is specific written permission from their parents. Non-prescription analgesics (eg aspirin, paracetamol, ibuprofen) are not held in school.

No child under 16 should be given prescription or non-prescription medicines without their parent's written consent. A completed proforma (Annex 1) with parental and staff signatures must be shown before medication can be administered. This record will be retained in line with GDPR requirements.

2. Prescription Medicines

The school will only accept prescribed medicines that are:

- In-date *
- Labelled
- Contain dosage instructions
- Provided in the original container, as dispensed by the pharmacist (except in the incidence of an insulin pen or pump), and include instructions for administration, dosage and storage.

If a child needs to take prescribed medication during the school day, parents must complete a Parental Agreement (Appendix 1) form and return it to school. All medicines will be stored securely at student services in a locked cabinet, and only named staff have access. The exception to this is where parents have consented to the child having medication on their person.

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

Staff will not direct a student to take a medicine or carry out a necessary procedure if they refuse, but will follow the procedure agreed in any IHP and inform parents so that an alternative option can be considered, if necessary.

* The school is aware of the availability and supply issues affecting adrenaline auto-injectors and is aware of the advice provided on expiry dates and use beyond expiry for adrenaline auto-injector devices.

3. The child's role in managing their own medical needs:

Children who are competent should be encouraged to take responsibility for managing their own medicines and procedures. This should be reflected within individual healthcare plans. In the event that children have either prescription or non-prescription medicines on their person, parents must notify the school of this, for both short and long term conditions. (Annexe 1).

Where agreement has been made in advance with school, students are permitted to carry their own prescription and/or non-prescription medicines. Examples of non-prescription medicines include paracetamol, antihistamine and ibuprofen. Relevant devices should be able to access their medicines for self-medication quickly and easily. For example, students are able to carry epipens, inhalers and auto-injectors on their person.

Children who can take their medicines themselves may require an appropriate level of supervision. If it is not appropriate for a child to self-manage, relevant staff should help to administer medicines and manage procedures for

them. If a child refuses to take medicine or carry out a necessary procedure, staff should not force them to do so, but follow the procedure agreed in the individual healthcare plan. Parents will be informed so that alternative options can be considered.

5. Emergency procedures

Staff will follow the school's standard emergency procedures. All students' IHPs will clearly set out what constitutes an emergency and will explain any student specific procedures.

If a student needs to be taken to hospital, a member of staff will stay with the student until the parent/carer arrives at school to collect them. If there is a need for a student to be taken directly to hospital by ambulance then two staff will accompany them until a parent/carer arrives.

6. Training

All teaching and support staff will be expected to familiarise themselves with the Supporting Students with Medical Conditions Policy as part of their new starter induction. Staff who are responsible for supporting students with medical needs will receive suitable and sufficient training to do so in liaison with professionals involved within the IHP.

The relevant healthcare professionals will lead on identifying the type and level of training required and will agree this with IEN Faculty Leader. 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 students 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.

If staff assess the risks of medical involvement to be too extensive then they have the right to refuse and provide an alternative arrangement where appropriate and available in agreement with parents/carers and the IEN Faculty Leader.

7. Avoiding Unacceptable Practice

North Leamington School understands that the following practice is unacceptable:

- Assuming that students with the same condition require the same treatment.
- Ignoring the views of student and parent.
- Ignoring medical evidence or opinion.
- Creating barriers to children participating in school life, including school trips and sporting activities

8. Equal opportunities

Our school is clear about the need to actively support students 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 students to participate fully in student life, including 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 students with medical conditions are included. In doing so, students, their parents and any relevant healthcare professionals will be consulted.

9. Complaints

Parents with a complaint about their child's medical condition should discuss these directly with the IEN Faculty Leader in the first instance. If the IEN Faculty Leader cannot resolve the matter, they will direct parents to the school's complaints procedure which is available on the school website.

10. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed by relevant staff and approved by the governing board every 2 years.

11. Links to other policy documents

This policy links to the following documents:

- Special Educational Needs policy
- Accessibility plan
- Individual students' Healthcare plans and Educational Health Care Plans.
- Complaints procedures
- Equality information and objectives
- First aid protocols
- Health and safety
- Child Protection policy
- Assessment of Risk (Students)

Annex 1: Parental Agreement for NLS to Administer Medicine

The school will not give your child medicine unless you fully complete and sign this form, and the school or setting has a policy that the staff can administer medicine.

Name of school/setting	North Leamington School
Name of child	
Date of birth	
Tutor Group	
Medical condition or illness	

Medicine

Name/type of medicine <i>(as described on the container)</i>	
Expiry date	
Dosage and method	
Timing	
Special precautions/other instructions	
Are there any side effects that the school needs to know about?	
Self-administration – Y/N	
Student to carry medication on their person - Y/N	
Procedures to take in an emergency	

NB: Medicines must be in the original container as dispensed by the pharmacy

Contact Details

Name	
Daytime telephone no.	
Relationship to child	
Address	
I understand that I must deliver the medicine personally to	[agreed member of staff]

The above information is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate at the time of writing and I give consent to school staff administering medicine in accordance with the school policy. I will inform the school/setting immediately, in writing, if there is any change in dosage or frequency of the medication or if the medicine is stopped.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Print Name _____ Review date agreed with school: _____