



KINGSMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Supporting pupils
with
medical conditions
policy**

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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, 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.
- Pupils with medical conditions access the same education as other pupils, including school trips and sporting activities.

The head teacher and 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)

The named person with responsibility for implementing this policy is Mrs Joanne Warren

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](#).

Local Authorities and schools have a responsibility for the health and safety of pupils in their care. The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 makes employers responsible for the health and safety of employees and anyone else on the premises. In the case of pupils with special medical needs, the responsibility of the employer is to make sure that safety measures cover the needs of all pupils at the school. This may mean making special arrangements for particular pupils who may be more at risk than their classmates. Individual procedures may be required. The employer is responsible for making sure that relevant staff know about and are, if necessary, trained to provide any additional support these pupils may need.

The Children and Families Act 2014, from September 2014, places a duty on schools to make arrangements for children with medical conditions. Pupils with special medical needs have the same right of admission to school as other children and cannot be refused admission or excluded from school on medical grounds alone. Teachers and other school staff in charge of pupils have a common law duty to act in loco parentis and may need to take swift action in an emergency. This duty also extends to teachers leading activities taking place off the school site. This could extend to a need to administer medicine. The prime responsibility for a child's health lies with the parent who is responsible for the child's medication and should supply the school with information. The school takes advice and guidance from the medical profession which encourages self-administration of medication when possible.

3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 The governing board

The governing board has ultimate responsibility to make arrangements to support pupils with medical conditions.

Governing bodies should ensure that school leaders consult health and social care professionals, pupils and parents to ensure that the needs of children with medical conditions are properly understood and effectively supported.

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. They should 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. This should specify how training needs are assessed, and how and by whom training will be commissioned and provided.

The governing body should ensure that its arrangements give parents and pupils confidence in the school's ability to provide effective support for medical conditions in school.

Governing bodies should therefore ensure that the focus is on the needs of each individual child and how their medical condition impacts on their school life, their ability to learn, as well as increasing confidence and promoting self-care. Governing bodies should ensure that pupils with medical conditions are supported to enable the fullest participation possible in all aspects of school life.

3.2 The headteacher

The headteacher will:

- Make sure all staff are aware of this policy and understand their role in its implementation for children who have a medical condition
- Ensure 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
- 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
- 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
- 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 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. This includes the administration of medicines.

Those staff who take on the responsibility to support 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.

All staff will read the pupils IHP annually and if they are updated and be confident in following procedures which are relevant to specific pupils.

3.4 Parents

Parents will:

- Provide the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs
- Be involved in the development and review of their child's IHP and may be involved in its drafting (Appendix 2)
- Sign the parental consent form for any medicines to be administered in school (Appendix 3)
- Carry out any action they have agreed to as part of the implementation of the IHP e.g. provide medicines and equipment.

3.5 Pupils

Pupils with medical conditions may sometimes be able to provide information about how their condition affects them. Pupils may be asked to be involved in discussions about their medical support needs with their parents and contribute to the development of their IHPs if of an age where this is deemed appropriate.

3.6 School nurses and other healthcare professionals

The 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 pediatricians, will liaise with the school's nurses and notify them of any pupils identified as having a medical condition. They may provide advice on

developing individual healthcare plans. Specialist local health teams may be able to provide support in schools for children with particular conditions (e.g. asthma, diabetes, epilepsy).

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 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.

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. Schools do not have to wait for a formal diagnosis before providing support to pupils. In cases where a pupil's medical condition is unclear, or where there is a difference of opinion, judgements will be made about what support to provide based on the available evidence. This would normally involve some form of medical evidence and consultation with parents. Where evidence conflicts, some degree of challenge may be necessary to ensure that the right support can be put in place.

See Appendix 1.

6. INDIVIDUAL HEALTHCARE PLANS

The headteacher has overall responsibility for the development of IHPs for pupils with medical conditions. This has been delegated to Mrs Allison Collard and to be overseen by Mrs Joanne Warren.

Plans will be reviewed at least 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 set out what needs to be done, when and by whom.

Not all pupils with a medical condition will require an IHP. It will be agreed with a healthcare professional and the parents 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.

IHPs will be linked to, or become part of, an education, health and care (EHC) plan. Mrs Charlotte Owens, the school's SENCO will be involved in this process. If a pupil has SEN but does not have an EHC plan, the SEN will be mentioned in the IHP.

The level of detail in the plan will depend on the complexity of the child's condition and how much support is needed. The governing board, Mrs Joanne Warren and Mrs Allison Collard will consider the following when deciding what information to record 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, including in emergencies. If a pupil is self-managing their medication, this will 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 pupil'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 pupil's condition and the support required, whilst ensuring confidentiality
- 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 pupil can participate, e.g. risk assessments
- Where confidentiality issues are raised by the parent/pupil, the designated individuals to be entrusted with information about the pupil's condition
- What to do in an emergency, including who to contact, and contingency arrangements.

7. MANAGING MEDICINES

Prescription and non-prescription medicines will only be administered at school:

- 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 if a child requires paracetamol to be administered unexpectedly during the school day, two staff members will ring the parent to seek permission over the phone, one witnessing. This is then recorded in the school's log and a timed receipt given to the parent at the end of the school day. (Appendix 4)
- Pupils under 16 will not be given medicine containing aspirin unless prescribed by a doctor.
- The school office team and headteacher are responsible for ensuring pupils receive medication in a timely manner. (Alarms set in office.)
- Anyone giving a pupil any medication will first check the parental agreement form (Appendix 3) to note dosage, times etc. and record details on the reverse of the form

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. 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.

These will be kept in the pupil's class, in their teacher's cupboard.

Pupils will be informed about where their medicines are at all times and will be supported by a member of staff to access them immediately if required.

If pupils are working off site, or on a school trip, swimming, staff should refer to our whole school medical and dietary notes which identifies who require medication to be taken with them. Medicines will be returned to parents to arrange for safe disposal when no longer required. Sharps boxes should always be used for the disposal of needles and other sharps.

7.1 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 their inhalers and medication, and administering them when necessary
- 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.

Other pupils in the school should know what to do in general terms, such as informing a teacher immediately if they think help is needed.

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 suitable and sufficient training to do so.

The training will be identified during the development or review of IHPs. Staff who provide support to pupils with medical conditions will be included in meetings where this is discussed. The family of a child will often be key in providing relevant information to us about how their child's needs can be met, and parents should be asked for their views. Parents can provide specific advice, but will not be the sole trainer.

The relevant healthcare professionals will lead on identifying the type and level of training required to ensure that all medical conditions affecting pupils in the school are fully understood; and will agree this with Mrs Joanne Warren. 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.

All staff will receive training so that they are aware of this policy and understand their role in implementing it, for example, with preventative and emergency measures so they can recognise and act quickly when a problem occurs. This will be provided for new staff during their induction.

10. RECORD KEEPING

The Head teacher will ensure that written records are kept of all medicine administered to pupils. (Appendix 3 and 4) Parents will be informed if their pupil has been unwell at school.

IHPs are kept in the school office and within reach of all staff members.

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. This is covered through the Local Authority.

12. COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Parents with a complaint about their child's medical condition should discuss these directly with the Head teacher 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 annually by the Chair of the Education committee, Rachel Chorley. An annual report will be presented to the education committee where it will be discussed and monitored. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

14. LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

This policy links to the following policies:

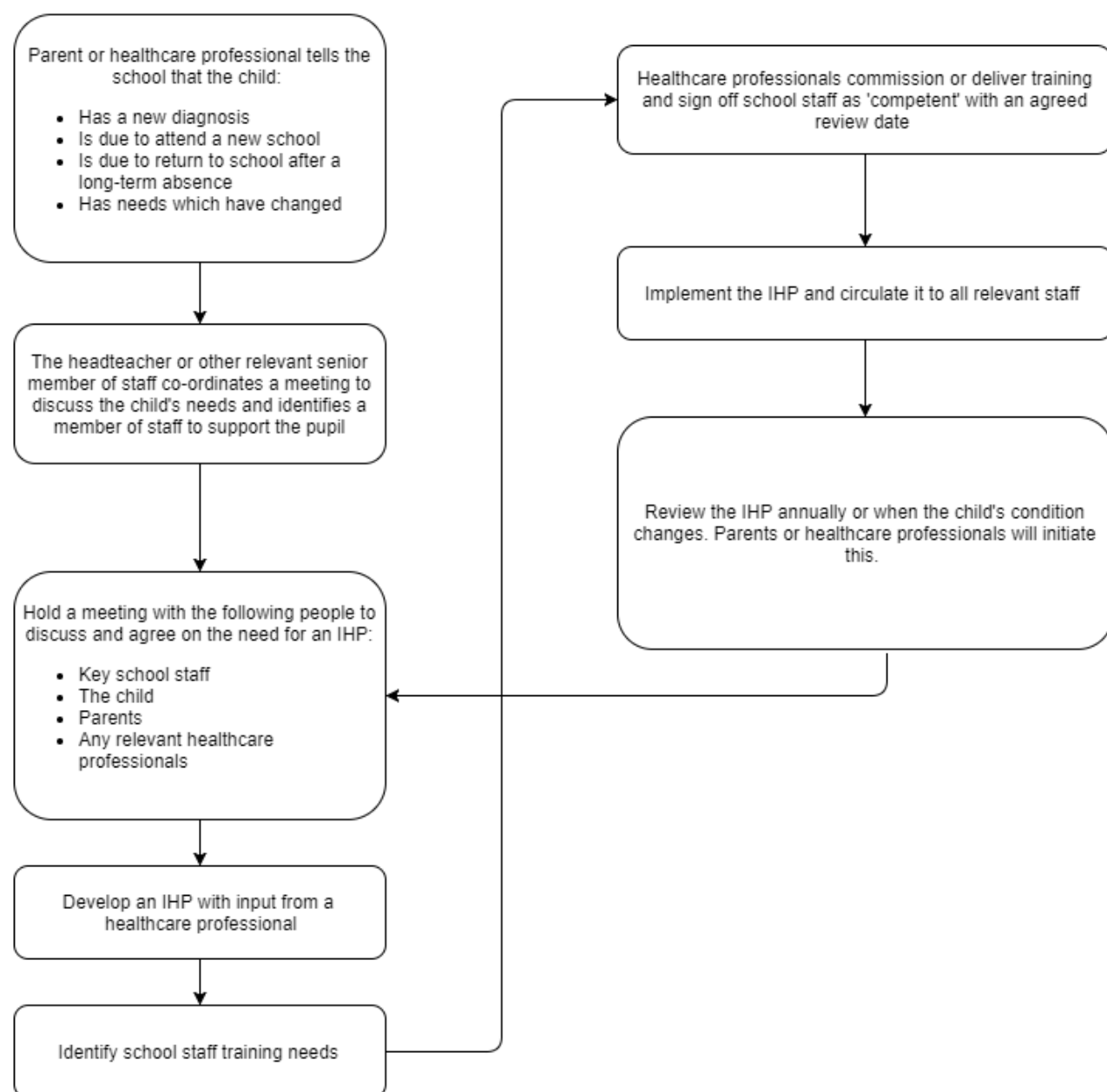
- Accessibility plan
- Complaints
- Equality information and objectives
- First aid
- Health and safety
- Safeguarding
- Special educational needs information report and policy

15. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions--3>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions--3/supporting-pupils-with-medical-conditions-links-to-other-useful-resources--2>

Appendix 1: Being notified a child has a medical condition



Appendix 2

Kingsmoor Primary School - Individual healthcare plan

Name of school/setting

Child's name

Group/class/form

Date of birth

Child's address

Medical diagnosis or condition

Date

Review date

Family Contact Information

Name

Phone no. (work)

(home)

(mobile)

Name

Relationship to child

Phone no. (work)

(home)

(mobile)

Clinic/Hospital Contact

Name

Phone no.

G.P.

Name

Phone no.

Who is responsible for providing support in school

Describe medical needs and give details of child's symptoms, triggers, signs, treatments, facilities, equipment or devices, environmental issues etc

Name of medication, dose, method of administration, when to be taken, side effects, contra-indications, administered by/self-administered with/without supervision

Daily care requirements

Specific support for the pupil's educational, social and emotional needs

Arrangements for school visits/trips etc

Other information

Describe what constitutes an emergency, and the action to take if this occurs

Who is responsible in an emergency (*state if different for off-site activities*)

Plan developed with

Staff training needed/undertaken – who, what, when

Form copied to

Appendix 3

Kingsmoor Primary School - parental agreement for setting to administer medicine

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

Date for review to be initiated by

Name of school/setting

Name of child

Date of birth

Group/class/form

Medical condition or illness

Medicine

Name/type of medicine
(as described on the container)

Expiry date

Dosage and method

Timing

Special precautions/other instructions

Are there any side effects that the
school/setting needs to know about?

Self-administration – 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/setting staff administering medicine in accordance with the school/setting 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 _____

[illegible]

Appendix 4

[illegible]