

**SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL
CONDITIONS POLICY**



**TURNERS HILL CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

THIS POLICY WAS ADOPTED

JUNE 2015

REVIEWED: MARCH 2016

THE POLICY IS TO BE REVIEWED IN

MARCH 2017

Inclusive Practice

Our school prides itself on promoting an inclusive environment. We recognise that each child is an individual and we never assume that every child with the same condition requires the same treatment. We ensure where possible that children with medical conditions remain in school; we do not send them home frequently or prevent them from staying for normal school activities, including lunch, unless it is specified in their Individual Healthcare Plans. We also encourage children to participate in every aspect of school life including school trips and we do not create unnecessary barriers in preventing them from doing so, e.g. requiring parents to accompany their child. Children are not prevented from drinking, eating, taking toilet breaks or other breaks whenever they need to, in order to manage their medical condition effectively.

We will always take account of the views of each child and his/her parents along with taking account of medical evidence and opinion. However, in line with statutory guidance we may challenge any advice if we consider it to be inappropriate. We understand that it may be necessary for children to attend hospital appointments during school time.

Statement of Intent

Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on governing bodies of maintained schools, proprietors of academies and management committees of PRUs to make arrangements for supporting pupils with medical conditions. The governing body of Turners Hill Church of England Primary School will ensure that these arrangements fulfil their statutory duties and follow guidance outlined in 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions' April 2014.

Establishment staff do not have a statutory duty to give medicines or medical treatment. However medicines will be administered to enable the inclusion of pupils with medical needs, promote regular attendance and minimise the impact on a pupil's ability to learn. In an emergency all teachers and other staff in charge of children have a common law duty of care to act for the health and safety of a child in care – this might mean giving medicines or medical care.

Organisation

The governing body will develop policies and procedures to ensure the medical needs of pupils at Turners Hill Church of England Primary School are managed appropriately. They will be supported with the implementation of these arrangements by the Head teacher and school staff.

The lead for implementation of this policy and for the management of medicines at Turners Hill Church of England Primary School is Ben Turney or, in his absence, Carole Boshier. They will liaise with healthcare professionals as necessary to implement this plan in respect of individual pupils. Their responsibilities in respect of the implementation of this policy will include:

- Ensuring that sufficient staff are suitably trained;

- Ensuring that all relevant staff are made aware of an individual child's medical condition;
- Ensuring that supply teachers are briefed appropriately;
- Ensuring that risk assessments are undertaken for school visits, holidays and other school activities outside the normal timetable; and
- Ensuring that individual healthcare plans (IHPs) are prepared and monitored.

In their duties staff will be guided by their training, this policy and related procedures.

Implementation, monitoring and review

All staff, governors, parents/carers and members of staff at Turners Hill Church of England Primary School community will be made aware of and have access to this policy. This policy will be reviewed bi-annually and its implementation reviewed as part of the head teacher's annual report to governors.

Prescription Medicines

Medicine should only be brought into school when it is essential to administer it during the school day. In the vast majority of cases, doses of medicine can be arranged around the school day thus avoiding the need for medicine in school. Antibiotics for example are usually taken three times a day, so can be given with breakfast, on getting home from school and then at bedtime.

Occasionally a GP may prescribe that a medicine has to be taken during the school day. Parents may call into the school and administer medicine to their child, or they may request that a member of the school staff administers the medicine. When school staff administer medicines the parent or guardian must supply the medicine in the original pharmacist's container clearly labelled including details of possible side effects to the school office and must complete a 'Parental Agreement for setting to administer medicine' form. On no account should a child come to school with medicine if he/she is unwell.

Non- Prescription Medicines

Non-prescription medicines are not administered at school and pupils should not bring them to school for self-administration. Only non-prescription travel sickness medication will be administered by staff providing they are supplied in the original packaging and accompanied by a 'Parental agreement for setting to administer medicine' form. Medication must be suitable for the pupil's age, supplied by the parent (not the school) and its original packaging, with manufacturer's instructions. Staff will check that the medicine has been administered before without adverse effect to the child in the past and parents must certify this is the case – a note to this effect should be recorded on the consent form. The medicine will be stored and administration recorded as for prescription medicines.

Controlled Drugs

The school, does not deem a pupil prescribed a controlled drug (as defined by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971) as competent to carry the medication themselves. Controlled drugs will be stored securely in a non-portable container and only named staff will have access, controlled drugs for emergency use must also be accessible. The administration of a controlled drug will be witnessed by a second member of staff and records kept. In addition to the records required for the administration of any medication, a record will be kept of any doses used and the amount of controlled drug held in school.

Pupils with Long-term or Complex Medical Needs

Parents or carers should provide the head teacher with sufficient information about their child's medical condition and treatment or special care needed at school. Arrangements can then be made, between the parents, head teacher, school nurse and other relevant health professionals to ensure that the pupil's medical needs are managed well during their time in school. For pupils with significant needs, arrangements will be documented in an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) or Educational Health and Care Plan (EHC)- see appendix A for IHP and EHC proformas which comply with statutory guidance. These plans will be reviewed by the school annually or, more frequently, following a significant change in a pupil's medical condition.

Admissions

When the school is notified of the admission of a pupil with medical needs the Lead for Managing Medicines will complete an assessment of the support required. This might include the development of an IHP and additional staff training. The school will endeavour to put arrangements in place to support that pupil as quickly as possible. However the school may decide (based on risk assessment) to delay the admission of a pupil until sufficient arrangements can be put in place.

Pupils taking their own medication

For certain long-term medical conditions, it is important for children to learn how to self-administer their medication. Appropriate arrangements for medication should be agreed and documented in the pupil's individual health care plan and parents should complete the relevant section of the 'Parental agreement for setting to administer medicine' form.

Staff Training

The school will ensure that members of staff who administer medicine to control specific chronic conditions are trained to administer those specific medicines, for example Anaphylaxis (Epipens), Diabetes (Insulin) and Epilepsy (Midazolam). A record of training must be maintained to show the date of training for each member of staff and when repeat or refresher training is required.

The school will also ensure that other staff who may occasionally need to administer a prescribed medicine supplied by the parent with a valid consent form and, or an

IHP, are trained in the procedure adopted by the school by the person who has completed the Managing Medicines course. A record of training must be maintained to show the date of training for each member of staff and when repeat or refresher training is required.

The school will ensure that a record is made of every dose of medicine administered in school. The record is completed by the person that administers the medicine.

No member of staff should administer prescription medicines or undertake health care procedures without appropriate training.

The Lead for Managing Medicines will assess both initial and on-going training needs and organise all necessary training, working in collaboration with medical professionals where necessary.

When a training need is identified in supporting an individual child, the school will ensure that members of staff will receive the relevant training to enable them to support the child. The Individual Healthcare Plan will then be updated with this information. We understand that medical needs of a child may change and training needs will be assessed when this occurs ensuring that the correct support is in place.

Storage and Access to Medicines

All medicines apart from emergency medicines (inhalers, epipens etc) are kept locked in the medical room. Medicines are always stored in the original pharmacist's container. Pupils are told where their medication is stored. In the event that a pupil requires an emergency medication that must be locked away, staff will be fully briefed on the procedures for obtaining the medication in an emergency.

Emergency medicines such as inhalers and epipens are kept in a clearly identified container in a child's classroom. Staff must ensure that emergency medication is readily available at all times i.e. during outside PE lessons, educational trips and in the event of an unforeseen emergency like a fire. Parents will be asked to supply a spare epipen/inhaler for each child and they will be kept in the medical room.

Medicines that require refrigeration are kept in the staffroom fridge, and are clearly labelled in an airtight container.

Record Keeping

For legal reasons records of all medicines administered are kept at the school until the pupil reaches the age of 24. This includes medicines administered by staff during all educational visits. A parent or guardian will be informed if their child has been unwell during the school day.

Emergency Procedures

In a medical emergency, first aid is given, an ambulance is called and parents/carers are notified. Should an emergency situation occur to a pupil who has an IHP, the emergency procedures detailed on the plan are followed, and a copy of the IHP is given to the ambulance crew. IHP's will also be given to those companies and staff providing transportation of pupils to and from school, in order that the IHP can be

passed to the ambulance crew in the event of an emergency. Instructions for calling an ambulance are displayed prominently by the telephone in the school office. Other than in a medical emergency, should a child become unwell, a member of staff or another pupil will accompany the child to the medical room or school office, where the staff on duty there will take over responsibility for the child's treatment.

Medicines on Educational Visits

Staff will administer prescription medicines to pupils when required during educational visits. Parents should ensure they complete a consent form and supply a sufficient supply of medication in its pharmacist's container. Non-prescription medicines (apart from travel sickness medication) cannot be administered by staff and pupils must not carry them for self-administration. Hay fever remedies, paracetamol etc. should therefore be provided, if necessary, on prescription.

Pupils with medical needs shall be included in educational visits as far as this is reasonably practicable. School staff will discuss any issues with parents and/or health professionals in suitable time so that extra measures (if appropriate) can be put in place for the visit.

All staff will be briefed about any emergency procedures needed with reference to pupils where needs are known and copies of care plans will be taken by the responsible person.

Medicines on Residential Visits

The school acknowledges the common law 'duty of care' to act like any prudent parent. This extends to the administration of medicines and taking action in an emergency, according to the care plan.

Occasionally it may be necessary to administer non-prescription medicines i.e. paracetamol, to pupils suffering acute pain from things like migraine, period pain, toothache. Parents must give written consent prior to the residential visit before a non-prescription medicine can be given.

Staff will check that the medicine has been administered without adverse effect to the child in the past and parents must certify this is the case – a note to this effect should be recorded on the consent form.

The school will keep its own supply of standard paracetamol tablets for administration to pupils during a residential visit. The medication will be stored and administration recorded as for prescription medicines. Pupils should not bring paracetamol (or other types of painkillers) on the residential visit for self administration.

Travelling Abroad

Children with medical needs will be encouraged to take part in visits. The responsible member of staff will carry out a specific additional risk assessment and a care plan will be drawn up considering parental and medical advice. Best practice would be to translate these documents to the language of the country being visited. The international emergency number should be on the care plan (112 is the EU number)

Insurance

Staff who follow the procedures outlined in this policy and who undertake tasks detailed in the WSCC medical audit are covered under WSCC insurance. The medical audit is available to view on WSGfL

http://intranet.westsussex.gov.uk/tools_and_resources/procedures/legal_services/advise_link/insurance_and_risk_management/insurance_guide.aspx

Claims received in respect of medical procedures not covered by the insurers will be considered under the Council’s insurance fund.

Complaints

Issues arising from the medical treatment of a pupil whilst in school should in the first instance be directed to the Head teacher. If the issue cannot easily be resolved in that way, the Head teacher or the child's parents may refer the matter to the Chair of the Governing Body for review. In this instance the school’s complaints policy should be followed.

Agreed on behalf of staff by

Adopted by Governors Date

Review Date March 2017