

Supporting children with medical needs Policy 2020

By	Review period	Method
Full Governing board	Bi-annual	Meeting

Ownership: Chief Finance and Operations officer
Revision History

Review	Changes	Next review date
December 2016	General clarification	December 2018
January 2018	Update on practices	December 2019
June 2018	Data phrase added	December 2019
June 2020	General update	June 2022



Purpose of the Policy

The Trust wishes to ensure that students and pupils with medical conditions receive appropriate care and support at school. This policy has been developed in line with the Department for Education's guidance released in April 2014 – "Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions". This document was updated in December 2015.

Ofsted places a clear emphasis on meeting the needs of students with SEN and Disabilities and this includes children with medical conditions.

Outline of Policy

Approach

The Trust aims to:

- Assist parents in providing medical care for their children;
- Educate staff, students and pupils in respect of special medical needs;
- Follow the DfE guidelines for supporting children at school with medical needs;
- Arrange training for employee's and volunteers to support individual children;
- Liaise as necessary with medical services in support of individual students and pupils;
- Ensure access to a full education if possible including school trips and physical education;
- Monitor and keep appropriate records.

ENTITLEMENT

The Trust supports that students and pupils with medical needs be assisted if at all possible and that they have a right to the full education available to others.

The Trust believes that students and pupils with medical needs should be enabled to have full attendance and receive necessary proper care and support.

The Trust accepts all employees have rights in relation to supporting students and pupils with medical needs as follows:

- Choose whether or not they are prepared to be involved;
- Receive appropriate training;
- Work to clear guidelines;

- Have concerns about legal liability;
- Bring to the attention of management any concern or matter relating to supporting students and pupils with medical needs.

Definitions

DEFINITION

Student's and children's medical needs may be broadly summarised as being of two types:

Short term - affecting their participation in school activities such as when they are on a course of medication or injury and appointments outside of school time relating to medical need

Long term - potentially limiting their access to education and requiring extra care and support

(DEEMED SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS.)

Background for the Policy

Schools and Colleges have a responsibility for the health and safety of students and 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 students and pupils with special medical needs, the responsibility of the employer is to make sure that safety measures cover the needs of all students and pupils who may be more at risk than their classmates.

Individual procedures may be required. The employer is responsible for making sure that relevant employee's know about and are, if necessary, trained to provide any additional support these students and pupils may need.

The Children and Families Act 2014, places a duty on schools and colleges to make arrangements for students and pupils with medical conditions.

STUDENTS AND 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.

However, teachers and other employee's in charge of children 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 trust premises. This could extend to a need to administer medicine.

The prime responsibility for a child's health lies with the parent or carer who is responsible for the child's medication and should supply the Trust with information.

How this policy operates in practice is detailed in appendix 1.

Links to other policies

Health and Safety policy

Complaints policy

Safeguarding Policy

Admissions Policy

Home School Agreement

School Visits policy

SEND policy

Equality Policy

Appendix 1

How this operates in practice

Appendix 1

Procedures

- Students with Medical Condition have a care plan (completed by Community School Nurse) and this sets out the guidelines for the management of the medical condition. This care plan will be drafted following notification of the condition from the pupil's parent or carer.

- The care plan will cover how to support the condition in school, action to take in an emergency and any educational, social and emotional support needed and how to provide this where possible.
 - The Chief Finance and Operations Officer is responsible for ensuring that sufficient staff are trained in the care of students and pupils with medical conditions of which the trust has been informed.

 - The key employee for St Joseph's is the medical officer who is a fully trained first aider and who may receive additional training in various medical conditions as required.

 - There are a number of other employees who are trained as first-aiders to support the medical officer. They are provided with additional training as necessary.

 - Key employees are informed of a student's medical condition but the privacy of the student is protected as the dissemination of this data is limited.

 - Risk assessments are completed for students and pupils with medical needs. This includes long term conditions such as diabetes but also short term issues such as a fracture. Risk assessments may be completed for when the child is in school but also if taking part in a school visit.