

Stanley Primary School

Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

Version Number	1.0	
Scope of Document	Children with additional medical needs	
Objective	To ensure pupils with medical conditions have the same right of admission to school as other children and to explain the school's procedures for managing and administering prescription medicines	
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Definition

Pupils' medical needs may be broadly summarised as being of two types:

- (a) **Short-term**, affecting their participation in school activities which they are on a course of medication.
- (b) **Long-term**, potentially limiting their access to education and requiring extra care and support

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](#).

School Ethos

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 so that they can access their full and equal entitlement to all aspects of the curriculum. In this case, individual procedures may be required. Stanley Primary School is responsible for making sure that relevant staff know about and are, if necessary, trained to provide any additional support that pupils with medical conditions (long or short term) may need.

The Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on schools to make arrangements for children with medical conditions. **Pupils with medical conditions 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 school staff in charge of pupils have a common law duty to act 'in loco parentis' and must ensure the safety of all pupils in their care. To this end, we reserve the right to refuse admittance to a child with an infectious disease, where there may be a risk posed to others or to the health of the child involved. This duty also extends to teachers leading activities taking place off the school site.

The prime responsibility for a child's health lies with the parent, who is responsible for the child's medication and must supply the school with all relevant information needed in order for proficient care to be given to the child. The school takes advice and guidance from a range of sources, including the School Nurse, Health professionals and the child's GP in addition to the information provided by parents in the first instance. This enables us to ensure we assess and manage risk and minimise disruption to the learning of the child and others who may be affected (for example, class mates).

Our Aims

- Pupils, staff and parents understand how our school will support pupils with medical conditions
- To support pupils with medical conditions, so that they have full access to the same education as other pupils, including physical education and educational visits
- To ensure that school staff involved in the care of children with medical needs are fully informed and adequately trained by a professional in order to administer support or prescribed medication
- To comply fully with the Equality Act 2010 for pupils who may have disabilities or special educational needs.
- To ensure Individual Healthcare Plans are in place where necessary
- To respond sensitively, discreetly and quickly to situations where a child with a medical condition requires support
- To keep, monitor and review appropriate records

The 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 Governing Body of Stanley Primary Schools ensures that an appropriate level of insurance is in place and reflects the level of risk presented by children with medical conditions.

The Headteacher will:

- Make sure all staff are aware of this policy and understand their role in its implementation
- 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

Unacceptable Practice

While school staff will use their professional discretion in supporting individual pupils, it is unacceptable to:

- Prevent children from accessing their medication
- Assume every child with the same condition requires the same treatment
- Ignore the views of the child or their parents / carers; ignore medical advice
- Prevent children with medical conditions accessing the full curriculum, unless specified in their Individual Healthcare plan
- Penalise children for their attendance record where this is related to a medical condition
- Prevent children from eating, drinking or taking toilet breaks where this is part of effective management of their condition
- Require parents to accompany their child with a medical condition on a school trip as a condition of that child taking part

Entitlement

Stanley Primary School provides full access to the curriculum for every child wherever possible. We believe that pupils with medical needs have equal entitlement and must receive necessary care and support so that they can take advantage of this. However, we also recognise that employees have rights in relation to supporting pupils with medical needs, as follows:

Employees may:

- Choose whether or not they wish to be involved
- Receive appropriate training
- Work to clear guidelines
- Bring to the attention of Senior Leadership any concern or matter relating to the support of pupils with medical conditions

Supporting pupils with medical conditions during the 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, although they will not be required to do so. This includes the administration of medicines.

Expectations

It is expected that:

- Parents will inform school of any medical condition which affects their child.
- Parents will provide school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs.
- Parents will supply school with appropriately prescribed medication, where the dosage information and regime is clearly printed by a pharmacy on the container
- Parents will ensure that medicines to be given in school are in date and clearly labelled

- Parents will co-operate in training their children to self-administer medicine if this is appropriate, and that staff members will only be involved if this is not possible
- Parents will be involved in the development and review of their child's IHP and may be involved in its drafting.
- Parents will carry out any action they have agreed to as part of the implementation of the IHP e.g. provide medicines and equipment.
- Medical professionals involved in the care of children with medical needs will fully inform staff beforehand of the child's condition, its management and implications for the school life of that individual
- School will ensure that, where appropriate, children are involved in discussing the management and administration of their medicines and are able to access and administer their medicine if this is part of their Individual Healthcare plan (for example, an inhaler)
- School staff will liaise as necessary with Healthcare professionals and services in order to access the most up-to-date advice about a pupil's medical needs and will seek support and training in the interests of the pupil
- Transitional arrangements between schools will be completed in such a way that Stanley Primary School will ensure full disclosure of relevant medical information, Healthcare plans and support needed in good time for the child's receiving school to adequately prepare
- Individual Healthcare plans supplied by Healthcare professionals will be made available to, and be followed by, relevant staff.

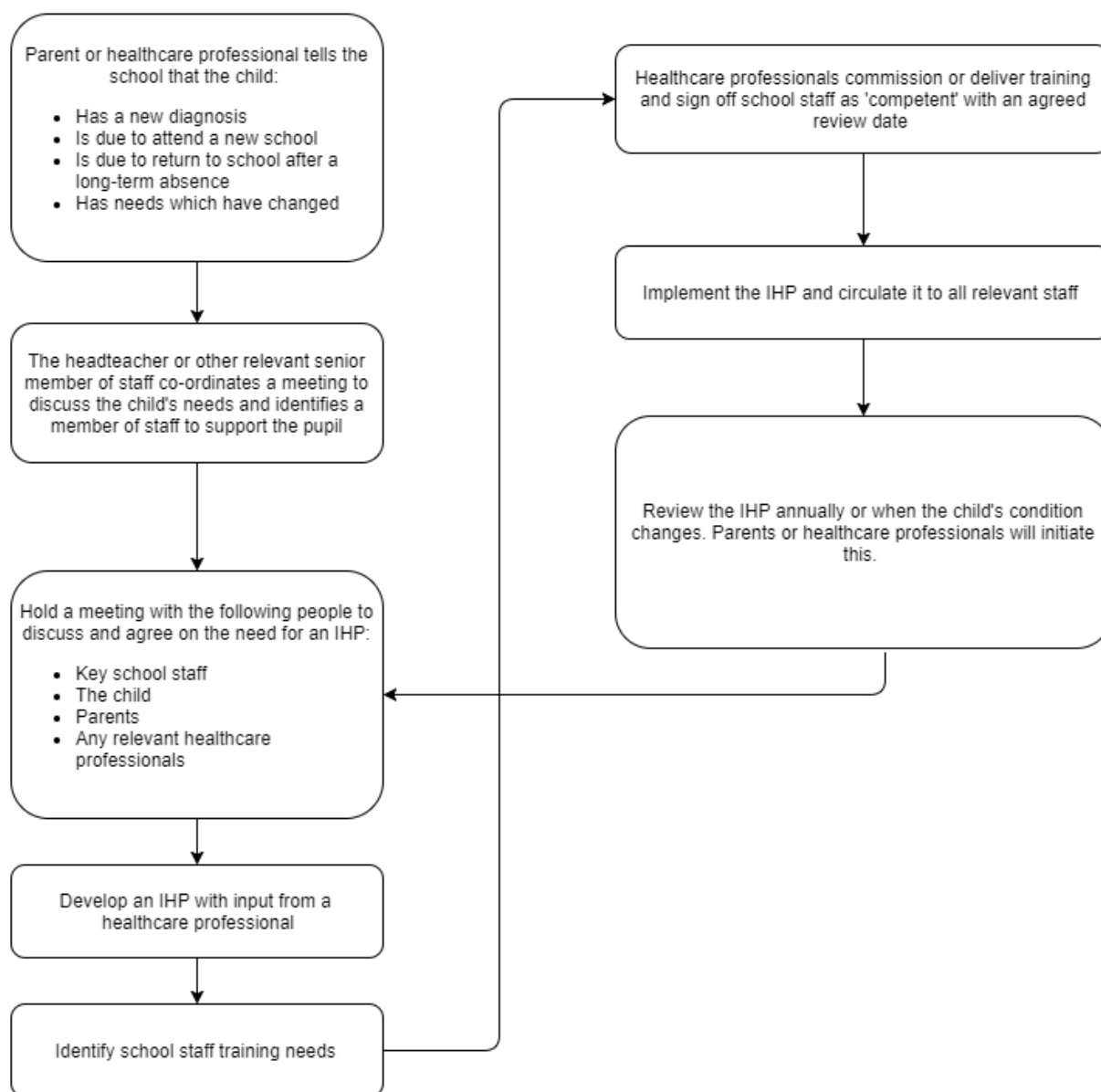
Equal opportunities

- 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.

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.



Individual healthcare plans

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for the development of IHPs for pupils with medical conditions. This has been delegated to K Manson (Assistant Headteacher). 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
- 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, any statement of special educational needs (SEN) or education, health and care (EHC) plan. If a pupil has SEN but does not have a statement or 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, Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher, 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
- 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

Managing/administration of medicines

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

Pupils under 16 will not be given medicine containing aspirin unless prescribed by a doctor.

Only essential medicines will be administered during the school day. These will be only those prescribed by a doctor. Parents must submit a written permission slip before any medicine is administered. Medicines to be given during the school day must be in their original container and handed in to the school office. Controlled drugs can also be administered, subject to all other conditions as described in the Policy. Essential medicines will be administered on Educational Visits, subject to the conditions above. A risk assessment may be needed before the visit takes place. Staff supervising the visit will be responsible for safe storage and administration of the medicine during the visit.

The office staff will give medicines (with the exception of asthma inhalers which are kept in the classrooms). Before administering any medicine, staff must check that the medicine belongs to the child, must check that the dosage they are giving is correct, and that written permission has been given. The ID of the child must be verified by a member of staff who knows the child. Two members of staff will be in attendance when administering medication. Any child refusing to take medicine in school will not be made to do so, and parents will be informed about the dose being missed. All doses administered will be recorded in the Administration of Medicines book (located in the school offices).

All medicines will be stored safely. Medicines needing refrigeration will be stored in the designated fridges. Some medicines (inhalers) will be kept in the child's classroom and carried with the children, for ease of access during outside activities. All medicines must be clearly labelled. Antibiotic medicines will only be given after the child has been taking them for 24 hours to ensure there has been no allergic reaction.

Controlled drugs or prescribed medicines will be kept in the school offices. Access to these medicines is restricted to the office staff. Epi-pens are kept in the school offices, out of reach of children but accessible to all adults.

Staff will record any doses of medicines given in the Medicine book. Children self-administering asthma inhalers do not need to be recorded.

Inhalers are kept in the child's classroom. Children have access to these inhalers at all times, though must inform a member of staff that they are taking a dose. All inhalers (and spacers) must be marked with the child's name. All children with an inhaler must take them on educational visits, however short in duration. Teachers will inform parents if inhalers are being used more than usual, as it may indicate asthma may not be controlled.

In line with Government guidance (Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools – March 2015), school will acquire and maintain an emergency inhaler. This will be used if a pupil's prescribed inhaler is not available for any reason, providing parental permission has been given.

Epi-pen – Any member of staff can administer an epi-pen in an emergency. The pen (cap off) should be pushed against the child's thigh, through clothing if necessary. The pen should be held for a count of 10 seconds before being withdrawn. Ambulances must be called for a child who may require an epi-pen. Parents should be contacted after this call has been made.

Information

Children with medical conditions which may require emergency attention, e.g. epilepsy, diabetes, will have their name, an up to date photograph and an Individual Healthcare Plan clearly accessible in their classroom, the school office, and the staff room to ensure all adults working within the school have their attention drawn to this information.

All classrooms have a red medical alert folder on the wall. This is a point of information for all staff and supply staff. Inside the folder is a class list which highlights any asthmatics and any other children that may have extra health requirements, either permanent or temporary. All Individual Healthcare Plans for individual children are also placed in these.

In an emergency

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.

In a medical emergency, a number of members of staff have been appropriately trained to administer emergency paediatric first aid if necessary and a list of these staff can be found with all First Aid boxes.

If an ambulance needs to be called, staff will:

- Outline the full condition and how it occurred
- Give details regarding the child's date of birth, address, parents' names and any known medical conditions.

Children will be accompanied to hospital by a member of staff until the parent arrives. Parents must always be called in a medical emergency, but do not need to be present for a child to be taken to hospital.

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 relevant healthcare professionals will lead on identifying the type and level of training required and will agree this with Headteacher/Assistant Headteacher. 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 understand 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.

Complaints

Should parents be unhappy with any aspect of their child's care at Stanley Primary School, they must discuss their concerns with the school. This will be with the child's class teacher in the first instance, with whom any issues should be managed. If this does not resolve the problem or allay concern, the problem should be brought to a member of the leadership team, who will, where necessary, bring concerns to the attention of the Headteacher. In the unlikely event of this not resolving the issue, the parents must make a formal complaint using the Stanley Primary School Complaints Procedure.

Confidentiality

The Headteacher and staff should always treat medical information confidentially.

The Headteacher should agree with the child/parent who else should have access to records and other information about a child.