



Clarendon Primary School & Children's Centre

Children with Medical Needs Policy

To be read in conjunction with Drug & Alcohol Policy

We at Clarendon Primary School believe that inclusion and equal opportunities for pupils with medical needs are an entitlement and that as a school we have the responsibility to create the conditions for each of our pupils to access their education. As far as the school staff and Governing Body are concerned we will make the necessary adjustments to the curriculum, make necessary environmental aspects and give desirable social support to minimise the potential barriers which may be created. We aim to create a school community which accepts others as they are and value each other.

Definition of medical needs

Children may be afflicted with a variety of medical needs. These may include:

- Long term medical needs - cystic fibrosis, epilepsy, diabetes
- Recurring medical needs - CFS/ME, leukaemia
- Life threatening conditions - leukaemia, cystic fibrosis
- Operations, road accidents, sports injuries - resulting in a period of recuperation
- Mental health - mood disorders, depression, anxiety disorders, obsession compulsive disorders, eating disorders, self harming behaviour, ADHD, psychotic disorders, tic disorders (including Tourette's syndrome)
- Effects of treatment for diagnosed medical conditions: steroids, chemotherapy, medication affecting performance and behaviour, eg psychotropic medication
- Infectious diseases - tuberculosis
- Degenerative conditions where deterioration in eyesight or physical mobility are expected - Duchene Muscular Dystrophy

Aims

- It is the aim of Clarendon Primary School to ensure that each child reaches their fullest potential, through a broad and balanced curriculum that prepares pupils for the responsibilities and opportunities for adult life.
- We are committed to providing pupils with medical needs as much education as their incapacity allows while minimising the disruption to normal schooling.

Organisation

Provisions must be made, either full or part time, for those children who may not attend school due to their illness. We strive to:

- continue to provide a broad and balanced curriculum
- work in partnership with parents
- strive for individual flexible approaches as required by changing medical needs
- expect and achieve multi-agency co-operation
- utilise IT fully for pupil's academic and social links

School's Responsibility

- keeping the pupil with medical needs on roll and including the pupil when planning
- continuing the pupil's access to education by providing work and materials for periods of absence expected to be up to 15 days
- ensure that pupils who have an illness/diagnosis which indicates prolonged or recurring illnesses have access to education
- refer those pupils who have prolonged periods of time off school to the Education Welfare Officer (EWO), Education Other Than at School (EOTAS) or have direct contact with the home or hospital to ensure that education is continued
- produce a Personal Education Plan - Medical (PEP-M). This includes arranging, chairing and recording of planning meetings, re-integration meetings and SEN review meetings with the appropriate services
- keeping parents informed and seeking written permission to liaise with Health Services
- ensure that half termly plans, current attainment levels, IEPs, PSPs (Pastoral Support Programme) are made available to the support services
- offer to loan appropriate resource materials, where possible to hospital or home teaching staff

Children's Medicines

- The school has a policy of storing children's medicines centrally.
- Asthma inhalers are kept in the medical room/office and should be clearly labelled with the child's name and dosage instructions.
- Exceptions to this policy will apply to severe asthmatics who will carry their inhalers with them after the school has received advice from their GP.
- Although the office will monitor their expiry dates it is the parent's responsibility to provide new inhalers as necessary.

- Staff are not obliged to administer any medicine to any child, and would be cautioned to take the advice of the SLT before doing so.
- If a child is on antibiotics but well enough to be at school it is preferable that a parent comes in to administer the dosage as required.
- If this is not possible the child may be administered the medication by a member of staff with written consent from the parents.
- Drugs such as Ritalin are stored in the Medical room/School Office and are taken by the child at the appropriate time.
- Several staff have been trained in the use of Epipens and these are stored in clearly marked bags or boxes in areas where they can be quickly accessed.
- Children requiring such medication should have clear medical plans which their teachers should have been made aware of.
- Again it is the parent's responsibility to make sure that these have not exceeded their expiry date.

Day and Residential Trips

- It is part of the school's equal opportunities policy that no child should miss out on day or residential trips because of conditions such as diabetes, epilepsy or allergy etc.
- Teachers are, however, not obliged to administer any medicine to any child and should only do so with written and signed permission of parents or guardians and detailed instructions on timing, dosage and any side effects.
- It is hoped that any diabetic child old enough to attend a residential trip should be able to self administer their medicine; otherwise it may be possible for their parent to accompany the trip.
- If the parent feels a child may need travel sickness pills, hay fever medication or painkillers of any sort these should be in the original packaging, clearly marked with their child's name and written permission for its use.
- Any medicines should be kept on the teacher's person or in a locked box on a residential trip.

Prescribed Medication

- Prescribed medication will be given to a child in the school setting when considered essential or that it would be detrimental to the child's health if it were not administered during the school day.
- Medicines should be provided in their original containers and include the prescriber's instructions for administration.
- We will not administer medication where it is out of the prescribed container or package or the dosage has been altered.

- All medication will only be prescribed with written consent from parents or guardians. Only one parent is required to request prescribed medications are administered. Where the parents disagree over medication, it must go to Court to be resolved and until such time, the school will continue to administer the medication in line with the consent given.
- All medication given will be recorded by the adult giving the medication.

Educational Visits

- All children with medical needs will be encouraged to participate in school trips.
- School and settings must consider the reasonable adjustment that will be required to support the individual

Possible Services Involved

- Education Welfare Officer
- Education Other Than At School
- CAMHS
- Education Psychology
- Social Services
- Health Services
- School Nurse
- School Doctor

Review

Date reviewed: Summer term 2014

Date due for review: Summer term 2017