

St Catherine's RC Primary School.

Supporting Children with Medical conditions

And managing Medicines policy.

This policy has been structured based upon the most recent government advice "Supporting children at school with medical conditions" (Dec 2015), the "Guidance and Code of Practice - First Aid at Work" provided by Dorset County Council, guidance from local Health Services, professional teaching associations, Dorset County Council Health and Safety Team.

St Catherine's RC Primary School adheres to the duty as stated in the Children and Families Act 2014 that children with medical conditions will have the same right of admission to our school as other children and will not be refused admission or excluded from school on medical grounds. Appropriate levels of assessments will be undertaken to establish and determine what support children with medical conditions require. This will be done in partnership with parents and health professionals. This is supported with guidance from Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions Statutory Guidance for Governing Bodies of Maintained Schools and Proprietors of Academies in England DfE (2015)

The prime responsibility for a child's health rests with parents. It is anticipated that parents / carers will ensure that appropriate information is provided for the school that enables proficient management and a good understanding of their child's medical condition; this includes working in partnership in the management of any medicines administered at school.

St Catherine's RC Primary School takes advice and guidance from a range of sources, including the School Nurse, Paediatric Consultants, and other Health professionals in addition to the information provided by parents in the first instance. This enables us to manage support effectively and to minimise any disruption to learning.

Key Personnel:

The designated person with overall responsibility to implement this policy is: **Mrs Paula Fearn**

This person will also ensure that staff are appropriately aware of the medical condition of children with whom they work and that any confidential information pertinent to the medical condition is entrusted to individual staff.

The person responsible for developing Individual Healthcare Plans is: **Mrs Paula Fearn**

The Governor with specific responsibility to oversee the arrangements to support children at schools with medical conditions is: **Mrs H Johnston**

AIMS

The school is committed to assisting children with long-term or complex medical conditions and working in partnership with their parents /carers.

1. To ensure that children with short or long term medical conditions are properly supported so that they have full access to education, including off-site activities and residential visits.
2. Make arrangements for staff to ensure that they receive adequate and appropriate training for them to support children with medical needs.
3. To ensure that parents and children have confidence in the medical support arranged at school.
4. To work in partnership with Health Service colleagues.
5. To be fully compliant with the Equality Act 2010 and its duties.
6. To manage medicines within school in accordance with government and local advice.
7. To keep, maintain and monitor records as detailed in this policy.
8. To write and to monitor Individual Healthcare Plans, in partnership with health professionals.
9. To ensure that the children in our school are safe and are able to attend school regularly with their medical condition.
10. To support children with complex medical conditions and or long term medical needs in partnership with Health professionals and parents to enable their access to education.
11. To adhere to the statutory guidance contained in "Supporting children at school with medical conditions" (DfES April 2014), and "Multi-Agency Guidance for the Management of Long Term Health Conditions for Children and Young People"(DSCB 2011) as set out and agreed with the school's Governing Body.

THE GOVERNING BODY WILL:

1. Ensure that arrangements are in place to support children and young people with medical conditions and that support is tailored to individual medical needs;
2. Make arrangements for this policy to be published on the school website;
3. Review this policy annually;
4. Ensure that staff are identified to implement the policy from day to day;
5. Monitor the arrangements associated with Individual Healthcare Plans so that they are managed appropriately, reviewed and maintained in partnership with Health professionals;
6. Ensure that staff receive appropriate training enabling them to provide bespoke and purposeful support to children with medical needs and that the training is refreshed regularly;
7. Ensure that specific arrangements are made for the self-management of medicine where applicable and how this will be both monitored and managed by staff;

8. Oversee the school's management of medicines to ensure that Health & Safety standards are met and that parents have confidence in the school's ability to support their child's medical needs.
9. Ensure that insurance arrangements cover staff in carrying responsibility for medical procedures;
10. Have 'due regard' to the rights of children who are disabled as set out in the Equality Act 2010;
11. Ensure that appropriate arrangements are made to include children with medical conditions on off-site activities;
12. Ensure that parents / carers are aware of the school's complaints policy.

INDIVIDUAL HEALTHCARE PLANS

Individual Healthcare Plans will be developed for children with medical conditions. These will set out the support that is needed so that the impact on school attendance, health, social well-being and learning is minimised. The plan will include the name of the member of staff who is appropriately trained and providing the agreed support.

St Catherine's RC Primary School will use the recommended Templates (**DfES**) to capture relevant information that will enable an appropriate plan to be structured. The Templates cover a range of issues for which governors have responsibility. Health professionals will be involved in the development of Individual Healthcare Plans in addition to parents and children.

The Individual Healthcare Plans will be tailored to meet the needs of short term, long term and/or complex medical conditions. The plans will be kept under review by the designated person and revised as required, or at least annually, to ensure that they reflect current medical needs (e.g., changes in medication). Individual Healthcare Plans will include details on emergency arrangements and these will be shared with all relevant staff, First Aiders and school office staff as applicable.

Where children have been issued with an Education and Health Care Plan (EHC) by the local authority, any Individual Healthcare Plan will be linked to, or become part of that EHC plan.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents

Parents are asked to provide the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs using a standard form (**Template B**) so that arrangements to manage their short or long term medical conditions can be implemented in partnership.

Parents are asked to deliver medicine to school. If it is not possible a family member with the appropriate consent (Template B) must bring the medicine into school. The school office will then obtain verbal consent from the parent. Should this written and verbal consent cannot be obtained then medicine will need to be administered outside of the school day.

Medicine should be provided in the original container(s) ensuring that the medicine is not out of date and that it has been stored correctly. All medicines must be marked with the following information clearly indicated:

- **The child's name on the medicine;**
- **When the medicine should be given;**
- **The prescribed dose and pharmacist's instruction, e.g., after meals.**

Parents are expected to notify the school immediately (in writing) of any changes or alteration to a prescription or recommended treatment so that adjustment can be made to Individual Healthcare Plans or previous agreement. It is important that the school is aware and informed by parents about other issues or symptoms their child may have experienced over night or before school; this is particularly important for asthma conditions.

It must be remembered that the prime responsibility for a child's health rests with parents carers.

The Headteacher will ensure the following:

- That governors are informed about the implementation and effectiveness of this policy,
- That arrangements are made with staff supporting children with medical conditions, and for any medicines required in delivering that support to be stored safely and in line with guidance provided by the local authority;
- Suitable arrangements are agreed in partnership and liaison with parents /carers to support the medical needs of children;
- That appropriate training has been provided for staff that enables them to carryout agreed procedures;
- That staff will not be directed to administer medicines - they can choose to volunteer to do so if they so wish (all staff will be advised to refer to advice from their professional associations before volunteering to administer medicines);
- Liaison with governors in the review of this policy at appropriate intervals, in line with local and national advice;
- That all staff and parents/carers are aware of this policy and the procedures for dealing with medical needs at St Catherine's RC Primary School;
- make arrangements through the designated teacher to manage the following:
 - Prescription medicines in school;
 - Prescription medicines on trips and outings, including school transport;
 - Accurate record keeping when administering medicines;
 - The safe storage of medicines;
 - Procedures for access to medicines during emergency situations;
 - Adhering to risk management procedures involving medicines;
 - That risk assessments and arrangements for off-site visits are checked and that governors are informed of the details.

The Designated Teacher will ensure the following:

- Staff work in partnership with parents/carers to ensure the well-being of child and young people;
- That interruption to school attendance for medical reasons will be kept to a minimum;
- Staff who have agreed to administer medicines will receive the appropriate training;
- Adherence to Individual Healthcare Plans;
- All cultural and religious views, made known to the school in writing, will be respected.

STAFF TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Most medicines to be administered will not require professional training; however the school will ensure that staff supervising the administering of medicines will understand that accurate records are to be kept and are completed at the time of being administered.

Staff who maintain these records should be clear about what action to take, (such as referring to the Designated Senior Person for Child Protection) if they become concerned about the welfare of an individual pupil. If an Individual Healthcare Plan is applied to particular children / young people, additional training must be given by a nominated Health professional, e.g., use of a nebuliser, using Epi pens. Training received or cascaded from parents will not be accepted unless otherwise instructed by a health professional. Record of Training Forms must be completed and maintained.

(See Template D: Staff training record).

(Also see "Multi-Agency Guidance for the Management of Long Term Health Conditions for Children and Young People" (DSCB 2011); section 3.3 and 3.4)

REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS

The school understands it's duties under the Equality Act 2010 to make reasonable adjustments and enable children and young people to have equitable access to education. Children and young people with complex or significant medical needs will be included in activities for as much as their health permits.

MANAGING MEDICINES ON SCHOOL PREMISES AND ON OFF-SITE ACTIVITIES

We will ensure that:

- records are maintained detailing an accurate history of the administering of medicines as far as possible – this will not include self-administering of over the counter medicines for older children for whom parents have requested permission using the appropriate Template;
- **Templates C** will be used to log administering of medicines;
- Suitable back-up systems are in place to cover administering of medicines in the event of staff absence;

- If there are any doubts or confusion about arrangements for administering medicines, staff must consult with the parents and the designated member of staff;
- No child or young person under 16 will be given medicines or be permitted to self-medicate without their parents' written request.

STORAGE OF MEDICINES

The school will adhere to the advice contained in "Guidance and Code of Practice – First Aid at Work" (Issue 2 April 2011), and local guidance provided by Dorset County Council's Health & Safety Team and the local authority's Physical and Medical Needs Service.

REFUSAL OR TOO UNWELL TO TAKE MEDICINES

If a child refuses to take medicine as prescribed and as requested by parents the records

(Template C) must state 'REFUSED' clearly and the parents/carer informed immediately. Children / young people will not be forced to receive medicine if they do not wish to do so.

If a child or young person is ill / injured and therefore unable to receive the agreed prescribed medication, the person designated to supervise the taking of medicine will consult with parents / carers immediately and advise the Headteacher of their actions. If the child vomits or has diarrhoea soon after receiving medication, parents must be contacted so that they can seek further medical advice.

SELF MANAGEMENT OF MEDICINES

In some cases it might be appropriate that children self-administer medicines, e.g., inhalers, epi pens. The school will encourage those with long term medical conditions to take responsibility for administering their own medication but continue to ask staff to supervise so that the appropriate records can be completed for safeguarding purposes.

Some children may carry 'over the counter medicines' (non-prescribed medicines) for their own use or self-administer prescribed medicines that are appropriate to carry. When this occurs parents should request permission from the Headteacher in writing (using Template B) and provide relevant details about the type and dosage of the medicine. We understand the need for personal dignity in addressing this matter to avoid individual embarrassment. We recommend that only one dose should be brought to school at any one time in order to reduce potential risk of medicines being abused.

OFF-SITE ACTIVITIES / SCHOOL TRIPS

All arrangements for medicines, including the storage of medicines, Individual Healthcare Plans, and Risk Management programmes will apply for all off-site activities or school trips. A member of staff will be designated to ensure there are suitable off-site arrangements for storage, and recording of the medicines when

assessing any risks associated for the trip, particularly for those children and young people with long term or complex health conditions. All plans and risk assessments will be discussed with parents/carers in preparation for the activity in advance of the departure day and agreed with the Headteacher.

All off-site activities will be evaluated in terms of proximity and accessibility to emergency services and any implications for those with short or long term medical conditions before receiving approval to go ahead from the Headteacher.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Care is taken to ensure that all children are safe. The school has 3 'First Aid at Work' qualified first aiders, 2 'Emergency First Aid at Work' qualified first aiders, 1 'Paediatric First Aid' qualified first aiders and 12 Emergency First-Aid trained staff.

Children with life threatening medical conditions or that require close monitoring / supervision may have Individual Healthcare Plans developed by school staff and Health professionals that provide contact details for emergency situations, e.g., anaphylaxis, diabetes, or epilepsy. Care plans are shared with all staff.

All cases deemed 'complex' or 'serious' medical conditions have emergency contact details held in the school office.

Asthma can also be life threatening; St Catherine's RC Primary School will follow the "Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools" issued by the Department of Health (September 2014). *St Catherine's RC Primary School has decided to hold emergency inhalers for the treatment of an asthma attack. All staff are aware of this.*

If required by a health professional or emergency incident/school trip St Catherine's RC Primary School will offer to children who are 'at risk' due to their medical condition a Grab Pack (collated information to pass to a doctor or ambulance crew in an emergency) that will accompany them at all times. The purpose of the pack is to provide emergency services with up to date information such as: diagnosis of principle conditions, key personnel and medical contacts, medication taken, up to date records of medicines that have been administered together with other relevant medical information and an agreement with parents/carers about what to do in an emergency.

BEST PRACTICE

St Catherine's RC Primary School will endeavour to eliminate unacceptable situations by promoting best practice in supporting children with medical conditions. In doing so we will:

- ensure that children have access to the medicine they need as arranged with parents;
- manage each medical condition through an Individual Healthcare Plan;
- listen to the views of children and their parents and take advice from medical professionals in planning the support needed;

- ensure that children with medical conditions are supervised appropriately and not left alone when ill;
- support access to the full curriculum or as much as medical consultants recommend;
- work in partnership with health services to ensure swift recovery or access to treatment;
- facilitate opportunities to manage medical conditions with dignity;
- manage medical needs such that parents are not required to support their child in school;
- include all children in school on and off-site activities, meeting their medical needs in the best way possible.

LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY

St Catherine's RC Primary School is covered by the local authority's medical malpractice insurance policy. This covers all staff in the arrangements made to support children with medical conditions for whom particular training has been given. Staff must follow the guidance, procedures and administering of medicines accurately.

COMPLAINTS

St Catherine's RC Primary School holds a Complaints Policy, details of which can be found on the school's website. Should any complaint be received in respect of the support.

provided for individual medical conditions, it will be dealt with in accordance with the Complaints Policy.

EQUALITY STATEMENT

St Catherine's RC Primary School is mindful of its Equality Duties; respecting religious belief and ensuring that support is provided for those with disability needs that might be affected by this policy. Where there are language or communication issues, and to avoid any misunderstanding, the parents / carers and Headteacher will agree an appropriate course of action. The Headteacher will engage interpreters or signers when required to ensure that full understanding of a child's medical needs are determined accurately.

With regard to off-site visits and residential opportunities, St George's Primary School will ensure that reasonable adjustments enabling children to be included are appropriate and made in consultation with parents/carers.

Date For review Autumn Term 2025.

**DFE TEMPLATES FOR USE WHEN
MANAGING HEALTH CONDITIONS
AND MEDICINES.**

APPENDICES.

Template A: 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

Template B: parental agreement for setting to administer medicine

The school/setting 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 _____

Template C: record of medicine administered to an individual child

Name of school/setting	
Name of child	
Date medicine provided by parent	
Group/class/form	
Quantity received	
Name and strength of medicine	
Expiry date	
Quantity returned	
Dose and frequency of medicine	

Staff signature _____

Signature of parent _____

Date			
Time given			
Dose given			
Name of member of staff			
Staff initials			

Date			
Time given			
Dose given			
Name of member of staff			
Staff initials			

C: Record of medicine administered to an individual child (Continued)

Date

Time given

Dose given

Name of member of staff

Staff initials

Date

Time given

Dose given

Name of member of staff

Staff initials

Date

Time given

Dose given

Name of member of staff

Staff initials

Date

Time given

Dose given

Name of member of staff

Staff initials

Template E: staff training record – administration of medicines

Name of school/setting

Name

Type of training received

Date of training completed

Training provided by

Profession and title

I confirm that [name of member of staff] has received the training detailed above and is competent to carry out any necessary treatment. I recommend that the training is updated [name of member of staff].

Trainer's signature _____

Date _____

I confirm that I have received the training detailed above.

Staff signature _____

Date _____

Suggested review date

Template F: contacting emergency services

Request an ambulance - dial 999, ask for an ambulance and be ready with the information below.

Speak clearly and slowly and be ready to repeat information if asked.

1. your telephone number
2. your name
3. your location as follows [insert school/setting address]
4. state what the postcode is – please note that postcodes for satellite navigation systems may differ from the postal code
5. provide the exact location of the patient within the school setting
6. provide the name of the child and a brief description of their symptoms
7. inform Ambulance Control of the best entrance to use and state that the crew will be met and taken to the patient
8. put a completed copy of this form by the phone

Template G: model letter inviting parents to contribute to individual healthcare plan development

Dear Parent

DEVELOPING AN INDIVIDUAL HEALTHCARE PLAN FOR YOUR CHILD

Thank you for informing us of your child's medical condition. I enclose a copy of the school's policy for supporting pupils at school with medical conditions for your information.

A central requirement of the policy is for an individual healthcare plan to be prepared, setting out what support the each pupil needs and how this will be provided. Individual healthcare plans are developed in partnership between the school, parents, pupils, and the relevant healthcare professional who can advise on your child's case. The aim is to ensure that we know how to support your child effectively and to provide clarity about what needs to be done, when and by whom. Although individual healthcare plans are likely to be helpful in the majority of cases, it is possible that not all children will require one. We will need to make judgements about how your child's medical condition impacts on their ability to participate fully in school life, and the level of detail within plans will depend on the complexity of their condition and the degree of support needed.

A meeting to start the process of developing your child's individual health care plan has been scheduled for xx/xx/xx. I hope that this is convenient for you and would be grateful if you could confirm whether you are able to attend. The meeting will involve [the following people]. Please let us know if you would like us to invite another medical practitioner, healthcare professional or specialist and provide any other evidence you would like us to consider at the meeting as soon as possible.

If you are unable to attend, it would be helpful if you could complete the attached individual healthcare plan template and return it, together with any relevant evidence, for consideration at the meeting. I [or another member of staff involved in plan development or pupil support] would be happy for you contact me [them] by email or to speak by phone if this would be helpful.

Yours sincerely