

Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs Policy

Temporary addendum during COVID-19

ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS

During the current COVID-19 circumstances the school will not administer medication prescribed or non-prescribed for a short-term ill health conditions that are of a viral or bacterial nature. In the current climate if a child is unwell, they will be expected to stay at home until fully recovered.

It is considered that if a pupil is unwell with a viral or bacterial infection, their immunity will naturally be lowered and therefore they are at a greater risk of becoming infected with other illness.

There will be no change in the support provided to pupils with long term medical conditions with individual health care plans or support with emergency medication such as autoinjectors, inhalers etc.

If non prescribed pain relief is required to manage a physical injury such as a sprained ankle, broken limb, this will be agreed case by case.

PPE FOR FIRST AID RESPONDERS IN AN EDUCATIONAL SETTING

Suitable PPE will be provided for staff working in a first aid capacity in line with the DfE Coronavirus guidelines (01 June 2020).

The guidance states as follows:

- *if a child, young person or other learner becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) while in their setting and needs direct personal care until they can return home. A fluid-resistant surgical face mask should be worn by the supervising adult if a distance of 2 meters cannot be maintained. If contact with the child or young person is necessary, then disposable gloves, a disposable apron and a fluid-resistant surgical face mask should be worn by the supervising adult. If a risk assessment determines that there is a risk of splashing to the eyes, for example from coughing, spitting, or vomiting, then eye protection should also be worn.*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings#personal-protective-equipment-ppe-including-face-coverings-and-face-masks>

TEMPERATURE TESTING

A student presenting as unwell in school will be routinely temperature tested with an infrared, non-contact temperature gun by the duty first aid responder. A temperature of 37.8C or greater will require immediate collection by a parent/carer and advised to self-isolate at home for the following 14 days in line with current NHS COVID-19 symptoms guidance.

ADMINISTRATION OF CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR)

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19), the school has updated its administration of emergency CPR in line with Public Health England guidelines (18 May 2020 secn 7.2). This guidance states as follows:

- *In adults, it is recommended that you do not perform rescue breaths or mouth-to-mouth ventilation; perform chest compressions only. Compression-only CPR may be as effective as combined ventilation and compression in the first few minutes after non-asphyxia arrest (cardiac arrest not due to lack of oxygen).*
- *Cardiac arrest in children is more likely to be caused by a respiratory problem (asphyxia arrest), therefore chest compressions alone are unlikely to be effective.*

Derby Cathedral School will not require duty first aid responders to administer rescue breaths in the event of a CPR scenario. Chest compressions will be performed whilst waiting for the emergency services to arrive and take over the management of a patient. This is to maintain a duty of care to both the patient and the employee regarding the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-interim-guidance-for-first-responders/interim-guidance-for-first-responders-and-others-in-close-contact-with-symptomatic-people-with-potential-2019-ncov>

Approved by Governors: Feb 2021