



# Supporting Pupils With Medical Conditions Policy

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## **Statement of intent**

The governing board of GSHS has a duty to ensure arrangements are in place to support pupils with medical conditions. The aim of this policy is to ensure that all pupils with medical conditions, in terms of both physical and mental health, receive appropriate support to allow them to play a full and active role in school life, remain healthy, have full access to education (including school trips and PE), and achieve their academic potential.

The school believes it is important that parents of pupils with medical conditions feel confident that the school provides effective support for their children's medical conditions, and that pupils feel safe in the school environment.

Some pupils with medical conditions may be classed as disabled under the definition set out in the Equality Act 2010. The school has a duty to comply with the Act in all such cases.

In addition, some pupils with medical conditions may also have SEND and have an EHC plan collating their health, social and SEND provision. For these pupils, the school's compliance with the DfE's 'Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years' and the school's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy will ensure compliance with legal duties.

To ensure that the needs of our pupils with medical conditions are fully understood and effectively supported, we consult with health and social care professionals, pupils and their parents.

## 1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Children and Families Act 2014
- Education Act 2002
- Education Act 1996 (as amended)
- Children Act 1989
- National Health Service Act 2006 (as amended)
- Equality Act 2010
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- Misuse of Drugs Act 1971
- Medicines Act 1968
- The School Premises (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014 (as amended)
- The Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017
- The Food Information (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2019 (Natasha's Law)
- DfE (2015) 'Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0-25 years'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2017) 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions'
- DfE (2000) 'Guidance on first aid for schools'
- Department of Health (2017) 'Guidance on the use of adrenaline auto-injectors in schools'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Pupil Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Admissions Policy
- First aid policy

## 2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Fulfilling its statutory duties under legislation.
- Ensuring that arrangements are in place to support pupils with medical conditions.
- Ensuring that pupils with medical conditions can access and enjoy the same opportunities as any other pupil at the school.
- Working with the LA, health professionals, commissioners and support services to ensure that pupils with medical conditions receive a full education.
- Ensuring that, following long-term or frequent absence, pupils with medical conditions are reintegrated effectively.

- Ensuring that the focus is on the needs of each pupil and what support is required to support their individual needs.
- Instilling confidence in parents and pupils in the school's ability to provide effective support.
- Ensuring that all members of staff are properly trained to provide the necessary support and are able to access information and other teaching support materials as needed.
- Ensuring that no prospective pupils are denied admission to the school because arrangements for their medical conditions have not been made.
- Ensuring that pupils' health is not put at unnecessary risk. As a result, the board holds the right to not accept a pupil into school at times where it would be detrimental to the health of that pupil or others to do so, such as where the child has an infectious disease.
- Ensuring that policies, plans, procedures and systems are properly and effectively implemented.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- The overall implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring that this policy is effectively implemented with stakeholders.
- Ensuring that all staff are aware of this policy and understand their role in its implementation.
- Ensuring that a sufficient number of staff are trained and available to implement this policy and deliver against all IHPs, including in emergency situations.
- Considering recruitment needs for the specific purpose of ensuring pupils with medical conditions are properly supported.
- Having overall responsibility for the development of IHPs.
- Ensuring that staff are appropriately insured and aware of the insurance arrangements.
- Contacting the school nurse where a pupil with a medical condition requires support that has not yet been identified.

Parents are responsible for:

- Notifying the school if their child has a medical condition.
- Providing the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs.
- Being involved in the development and review of their child's IHP.
- Carrying out any agreed actions contained in the IHP.
- Ensuring that they, or another nominated adult, are contactable at all times.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Being fully involved in discussions about their medical support needs, where applicable.
- Contributing to the development of their IHP, if they have one, where applicable.
- Being sensitive to the needs of pupils with medical conditions.

School staff are responsible for:

- Every member of staff is responsible for supported students with Medical Conditions plans
- Staff will attend the relevant training to allow them to recognise and support medical conditions
- SLT will ensure that relevant training is available for all staff
- The SENDCo will ensure that medical information is communicated to relevant parties and updated regularly, at Great Sankey High staff can access this information via the medical needs register and Bromcom
- The Safeguarding lead will oversee the process, including the collection of data on an annual basis
- SENDCo will train staff and ensure that information re Medical Condition plans is shared

Other healthcare professionals, including GPs and paediatricians, are responsible for:

- Notifying the school nurse when a child has been identified as having a medical condition that will require support at school.
- Providing advice on developing IHPs.
- Providing support in the school for children with particular conditions, e.g. asthma, diabetes and epilepsy, where required.

### **3. Admissions**

Admissions will be managed in line with the school's Admissions Policy.

No child will be denied admission to the school or prevented from taking up a school place because arrangements for their medical condition have not been made; a child may only be refused admission if it would be detrimental to the health of the child to admit them into the school setting.

The school will not ask, or use any supplementary forms that ask, for details about a child's medical condition during the admission process.

### **4. Notification procedure**

When the school is notified that a pupil has a medical condition that requires support in school, the SENDCo/pastoral will inform the headteacher and relevant staff through updating the medical needs register.

Following this, the school will either:

- arrange a meeting with parents, healthcare professionals and the pupil, with a view to discussing the necessity of an IHP (outlined in detail in the [IHPs](#) section of this policy), if necessary a risk assessment will also be completed at this time
- request parents complete an IHP

The school will not wait for a formal diagnosis before providing support to pupils. Where a pupil's medical condition is unclear, or where there is a difference of opinion concerning what

support is required, a judgement will be made by the relevant staff based on all available evidence (including medical evidence and consultation with parents).

For a pupil starting at the school in a September uptake, arrangements will be put in place prior to their introduction and informed by their previous institution. Where a pupil joins the school mid-term or a new diagnosis is received, arrangements will be put in place within a timely manner.

## **5. Staff training and support**

Any staff member providing support to a pupil with medical conditions will receive suitable training. Staff will not undertake healthcare procedures or administer medication without appropriate training.

A first-aid certificate will not necessarily constitute appropriate training for supporting pupils with medical conditions.

Through training, staff will have the requisite competency and confidence to support pupils with medical conditions and fulfil the requirements set out in IHPs. Staff will understand the medical conditions they are asked to support, their implications, and any preventative measures that must be taken.

Whole-school awareness training will be carried out on an annual basis for all staff, and included in the induction of new staff members.

The SENDco will identify suitable training opportunities that ensure all medical conditions affecting pupils in the school are fully understood, and that staff can recognise difficulties and act quickly in emergency situations.

The parents of pupils with medical conditions will be consulted for specific advice and their views are sought where necessary, but they will not be used as a sole trainer.

## **6. Self-management**

Following discussion with parents, pupils who are competent to manage their own health needs and medicines will be encouraged to take responsibility for self-managing their medicines and procedures. This will be reflected in their IHP and will be judged on a case by case basis.

Where possible, pupils will be allowed to carry their own medicines and relevant devices. Where it is not possible for pupils to carry their own medicines or devices, they will be held in the relevant year office. If a pupil refuses to take medicine or carry out a necessary procedure, staff will not force them to do so. Instead, parents will be informed so that alternative options can be considered.

If a pupil with a controlled drug passes it to another child for use, this is an offence and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with our Behaviour policy.

## **7. IHPs**

The school, healthcare professionals and parents agree, based on evidence, whether an IHP will be required for a pupil, or whether it would be inappropriate or disproportionate to their level of need. If no consensus can be reached, the headteacher will make the final decision.

The school, parents and a relevant healthcare professional will work in partnership to create and review IHPs. Where appropriate, the pupil will also be involved in the process.

IHPs will include the following information:

- The medical condition, along with its triggers, symptoms, signs and treatments
- The pupil's needs, including medication (dosages, side effects and storage), other treatments, facilities, equipment, access to food and drink (where this is used to manage a condition), dietary requirements, and environmental issues
- The support needed for the pupil's educational, social and emotional needs
- The level of support needed, including in emergencies
- Whether a child can self-manage their medication
- Who will provide the necessary support, including details of the expectations of the role and the training needs required, as well as who will confirm the supporting staff member's proficiency to carry out the role effectively
- Cover arrangements for when the named supporting staff member is unavailable
- Who needs to be made aware of the pupil's condition and the support required
- Arrangements for obtaining written permission from parents and the headteacher for medicine to be administered by school staff or self-administered by the pupil
- Separate arrangements or procedures required during school trips and activities
- Where confidentiality issues are raised by the parents or pupil, the designated individual to be entrusted with information about the pupil's medical condition
- What to do in an emergency, including contact details and contingency arrangements

Where a pupil has an emergency healthcare plan prepared by their lead clinician, this will be used to inform the IHP.

IHPs will be easily accessible to those who need to refer to them, but confidentiality will be preserved. IHPs will be reviewed on at least an annual basis, or when a child's medical circumstances change, whichever is sooner.

Where a pupil has an EHC plan, the IHP will be linked to it or become part of it. Where a child has SEND but does not have a statement or EHC plan, their SEND will be mentioned in their IHP.

Where a child is returning from a period of hospital education, alternative provision or home tuition, the school will work with the LA and education provider to ensure that their IHP identifies the support the child will need to reintegrate.

## **8. Managing medicines**



In accordance with the school's Administering Medication Policy, medicines will only be administered at school when it would be detrimental to a pupil's health or school attendance not to do so.

Pupils under 16 years old will not be given prescription or non-prescription medicines without their parents' consent.

Non-prescription medicines may be administered in the following situations:

- When it would be detrimental to the pupil's health not to do so
- When instructed by a medical professional

School does not hold a supply of non-prescription medicine e.g. antihistamine's, paracetamol. Should a child or pupil require such medication pastoral leaders will contact home and request that parents bring the appropriate medicines to the school. These will be passed to the student for self-administration. Parents are responsible for ensuring the dosage and frequency is clearly communicated to their child.

The school will only accept medicines that are in-date, labelled, in their original container, and contain instructions for administration, dosage and storage. The only exception to this is insulin, which must still be in-date, but is available in an insulin pen or pump, rather than its original container.

All medicines will be stored safely. Pupils will be informed where their medicines are at all times and will be able to access them immediately, whether in school or attending a school trip or residential visit. Where relevant, pupils will be informed of who holds the key to the relevant storage facility. When medicines are no longer required, they will be returned to parents for safe disposal.

Sharps boxes will be used for the disposal of needles and other sharps.

Controlled drugs will be stored in a non-portable container and only named staff members will have access; however, these drugs can be easily accessed in an emergency. A record will be kept of the amount of controlled drugs held and any doses administered. Staff may administer a controlled drug to a pupil for whom it has been prescribed, in accordance with the prescriber's instructions.

The school will hold asthma inhalers for emergency use. The inhalers will be stored in first aid boxes and their use will be recorded via the online accident and first aid form, it is the responsibility of the assigned admin team member to ensure replacements are ordered when necessary.

Records will be kept of all medicines administered to individual pupils, stating what, how and how much medicine was administered, when, and by whom. A record of side effects presented will also be held. This information will be stored on BROMCOM

## 9. Allergens, anaphylaxis and adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)

Parents are required to provide the school with up-to-date information relating to their children's allergies, as well as the necessary action to be taken in the event of an allergic reaction, such as any medication required.

The headteacher and catering team will ensure that all pre-packed foods for direct sale (PPDS) made on the school site meet the requirements of Natasha's Law, i.e. the product displays the name of the food and a full, up-to-date ingredients list with allergens emphasised, e.g. in bold, italics or a different colour.

The catering team will also work with any external catering providers to ensure all requirements are met and that PPDS is labelled in line with Natasha's Law.

Staff members receive appropriate training and support relevant to their level of responsibility, in order to assist pupils with managing their allergies.

A Register of Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs) will be kept of all the pupils who have been prescribed an AAI to use in the event of anaphylaxis this. A copy of this will be disseminated to staff every half term for easy access in the event of an allergic reaction and will be checked as part of initiating the emergency response

Pupils who have prescribed AAI devices can keep their device in their possession, half termly spot checks are completed by the SEND team to ensure that these devices are in date.

Staff members will be trained on how to administer an AAI, and the sequence of events to follow when doing so.

In the event of anaphylaxis, a designated staff member will be contacted via a [two-way radio](#). Where there is any delay in contacting designated staff members, or where delay could cause a fatality, the nearest staff member will administer the AAI. If necessary, other staff members may assist the designated staff members with administering AAIs, e.g. if the pupil needs restraining.

The school will keep a spare AAI for use in the event of an emergency, which will be checked on a [monthly](#) basis to ensure that it remains in date, and which will be replaced before the expiry date. The AAI will be stored in year offices., ensuring that it is protected from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. The spare AAI will only be administered to pupils at risk of anaphylaxis. Where a pupil's prescribed AAI cannot be administered correctly and without delay, the spare will be used. Where a pupil who does not have a prescribed AAI appears to be having a severe allergic reaction, the emergency services will be contacted and advice sought as to whether administration of the spare AAI is appropriate.

Where a pupil is, or appears to be, having a severe allergic reaction, the emergency services will be contacted even if an AAI device has already been administered.

In the event that an AAI is used, the pupil's parents will be notified that an AAI has been administered and informed whether this was the pupil's or the school's device. Where any

AAIs are used, the electronic first aid/accident form will be completed and in addition the following information will be recorded

- Where and when the reaction took place
- How much medication was given and by whom

For children aged over 12, a dose of 300 or 500 micrograms of adrenaline will be used.

AAIs will not be reused and will be disposed of according to manufacturer's guidelines following use.

In the event of a school trip, pupils at risk of anaphylaxis will have their own AAI with them and the school will give consideration to taking the spare AAI in case of an emergency.

## **10. Record keeping**

Written records on BROMCOM will be kept of all medicines administered to pupils. Proper record keeping will protect both staff and pupils, and provide evidence that agreed procedures have been followed.

## **11. Emergency procedures**

Medical emergencies will be dealt with under the school's emergency procedures.

Where an IHP is in place, it should detail:

- What constitutes an emergency.
- What to do in an emergency.

Pupils will be informed in general terms of what to do in an emergency, e.g. telling a teacher.

If a pupil needs to be taken to hospital, a member of staff will remain with the pupil until their parents arrive. When transporting pupils with medical conditions to medical facilities, staff members will be informed of the correct postcode, wa5 3aa and direct to the nearest entrance either Barrow Hall lane or Livewire.

## **12. Day trips, residential visits and sporting activities**

For all trips parents must complete a medical form. Pupils with medical conditions will be supported to participate in school trips, sporting activities and residential visits.

Prior to an activity taking place, the school will conduct a risk assessment to identify what reasonable adjustments should be taken to enable pupils with medical conditions to participate. In addition to a risk assessment, advice will be sought from pupils, parents and relevant medical professionals. The school will arrange for adjustments to be made for all pupils to participate, except where evidence from a clinician, e.g. a GP, indicates that this is not possible.

### **13. Unacceptable practice**

The school will not:

- Assume that pupils with the same condition require the same treatment.
- Prevent pupils from easily accessing their inhalers and medication.
- Ignore the views of the pupil or their parents.
- Ignore medical evidence or opinion.
- Send pupils home frequently for reasons associated with their medical condition, or prevent them from taking part in activities at school, including lunch times, unless this is specified in their IHP.
- Penalise pupils with medical conditions for their attendance record, where the absences relate to their condition.
- Make parents feel obliged or forced to visit the school to administer medication or provide medical support, including for toilet issues. The school will ensure that no parent is made to feel that they have to give up working because the school is unable to support their child's needs.
- Create barriers to pupils participating in school life, including school trips.
- Refuse to allow pupils to eat, drink or use the toilet when they need to in order to manage their condition.

### **14. Liability and indemnity**

The governing board will ensure that appropriate insurance is in place to cover staff providing support to pupils with medical conditions.

The school holds an insurance policy with RPA covering liability relating to the administration of medication.

All staff providing such support will be provided with access to the insurance policies.

In the event of a claim alleging negligence by a member of staff, civil actions are most likely to be brought against the school, not the individual.

### **15. Complaints**

Parents or pupils wishing to make a complaint concerning the support provided to pupils with medical conditions are required to speak to the school in the first instance. If they are not satisfied with the school's response, they can follow the school complaints procedure.

### **16. Home-to-school transport**

Arranging home-to-school transport for pupils with medical conditions is the responsibility of the LA. Where appropriate, the school will share relevant information to allow the LA to develop appropriate transport plans for pupils with life-threatening conditions.

## **17. Defibrillators**

There is a defibrillator positioned in the Main staff room. For best practise the first aid at work staff have had training and are qualified to deliver this. However, you do not need to be trained to use a defibrillator, there are clear instructions on how to attach the defibrillator pads, it then assesses the heart rhythm and will only instruct you to deliver a shock if required.

The emergency services will always be called where an AED is used or requires using.

## **18. Monitoring and review**

This policy is reviewed on an **annual** basis by the governing board, school nurse and headteacher. Any changes to this policy will be communicated to all staff, parents and relevant stakeholders.

The next scheduled review date for this policy is **June 2023**.

**Appendix 1 - Individual Healthcare Plan**

**Pupil's name:**

--

**Group/class/form:**

--

**Date of birth:**

--

**Pupil's address:**

--

**Medical diagnosis or condition:**

--

**Date:**

--

**Review date:**

--

**Family contact information**

**Name:**

--

**Relationship to pupil:**

--

**Phone number (work):**

--

**(home):**

--

**(mobile):**

--

**Name:**

--

**Relationship to pupil:**

--

**Phone number (work):**

--

**(home):**

--

**(mobile):**

--

**Clinic/hospital contact**

**Name:**

--

**Phone number:**

--

**Child's GP**

**Name:**

--

**Phone number:**

--

**Pupil's medical needs and details of symptoms, signs, triggers, treatments, facilities, equipment or devices, environmental issues, etc.:**

**Name of medication, dose, method of administration, when it should be taken, side effects, contra-indications, administered by staff member/self-administered with/without supervision:**

**Daily care requirements:**

**Arrangements for school visits and trips:**

**Other information:**

**Describe what constitutes an emergency, and the action to take if this occurs:**

The person responsible for providing medical support in school is \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that there will be a qualified first aider on all school trips (please tick)

I understand that this form will be received by school It will be copied to a centralized database and all information will be added to the schools medical register (please tick)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix 2: Parental Agreement for the School to Administer Prescribes Medicine

The school will not give your child medicine unless you complete and sign this form.

### Administration of medication form

Date for review to be initiated by:

Name of child:

Date of birth:

Group/class/form:

Medical condition or illness:


### Medicine

Name and/or type of medicine  
*(as described on the container):*

Expiry date:

Dosage and method:

Timing:

Special precautions and/or other instructions:

Any side effects that the school needs to know about:

Self-administration – Yes/No:

Procedures to take in an emergency:


**NB: Medicines must be in the original container as dispensed by the pharmacy – the only exception to this is insulin, which may be available in an insulin pen or pump rather than its original container.**



**Contact details**

Name:

--

Daytime telephone number:

--

Relationship to child:

--

Address:

--

I will personally deliver the medicine to:

<u>Name and position of staff member</u>
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The above information is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate at the time of writing and I give consent for school staff to administer medicine in accordance with the relevant policies. I will inform the school immediately, in writing, if there is any change in dosage or frequency of the medication, or if the medicine is stopped.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_





