

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

'Following Jesus in all we do'



**2020 Amendments and Additions added to the
Medical Conditions Policy**

**The policy in full will be adopted for September 2020.
The addendum for Covid 19 and any unprecedented closure of the school will
remain and is still included in the policy.**

When a child is or is likely to be absent from school for 15 days consecutively or cumulatively in a school year due to illness (this would not normally include absences due to short term illness such as influenza or self-isolation due to Covid-19).

An Individual Health Care Plan (IHCP) will be completed to identify the specific needs of the child and the educational arrangements required to meet those needs.

An integral part of the IHCP process requires obtaining supporting advice from healthcare professionals and for that evidence and advice to be regularly reviewed, so that all parties are confident the arrangements remain appropriate and that the child is making the expected progress.

Even if a child's medical condition does not prevent them from attending school the IHCP process should be followed, ensuring that at all times the needs of the child are identified, understood and acted on.

Children and young people (0 to 18 years of age) who have been classed as clinically extremely vulnerable due to pre-existing medical conditions* have been advised to shield. **These children are not expected to be attend their educational setting, and they should continue to be supported at home as much as possible.**

Clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable) people are those considered to be at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19). A small minority of children will fall into this category, and parents should follow medical advice if their child is in this category.

Clinically extremely vulnerable (shielded) include those who:

- Have had a solid organ transplant – kidney, liver, pancreas, heart or lung;
- Are having treatments for some cancers
- have severe long-term lung disease including cystic fibrosis and severe asthma;
- Have some rare diseases that increase their risk of infection.
- Are on medication that compromises their immune system and so are much more likely to get infections and become seriously unwell from them.

The IHCP is not designed to be a single agency plan therefore, St Joseph's will ensure the involvement of parents, the child and the child's healthcare provider (s) be included in the development of the plan, this will ensure the plan is comprehensive and adequate.

Together, we will be able to provide useful information to inform decisions regarding the arrangements needed. (This is especially important during a pandemic as the plan will support the school's risk assessment of the child and assist in identifying the specific measures required, including when PPE is to be used (if at all))

If the Plan identifies that a child cannot attend school safely and/or that they are too ill to attend school, whether on a full or part-time basis, we will immediately notify Worcestershire Children First's Children Missing Education Lead who will be able to provide information.

Worcestershire Children First's Children Missing Education Lead

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