



Medical Conditions Policy

Muscliff Primary School

Approved by: SLT **Date:** September 2024

Last reviewed on: September 2024

Next review due by: September 2025

Our Vision and Ethos

Our school is a place where staff, directors and parents actively work together to ensure all children receive an engaging, ambitious, rich curriculum to inspire thinking and promote deep sustainable learning.

Children become lifelong learners, aspiring to high standards of achievement in all areas of their life.

Children are supported through a strong set of enduring values which will provide the solid foundation for children as they discover their own individual role and responsibilities within the wider world

POLICY STATEMENT

This school is an inclusive community that welcomes and supports pupils with medical conditions.

This school provides all pupils with any medical condition the same opportunities as others at school.

The school makes sure all staff understand their duty of care to children and young people in the event of an emergency.

All staff feel confident in knowing what to do in an emergency.

This school understands that certain medical conditions are serious and potentially life threatening, particularly if poorly managed or misunderstood.

This school understands the importance of medication and care being taken as directed by healthcare professionals and parents.

All staff understand the medical conditions that affect pupils at this school. Staff receive training on the impact medical conditions can have on pupils.

The named member of school staff responsible for this medical conditions policy and its implementation is:
Paula Harvey

This policy is written in conjunction with the following DfE documents:

‘Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions’

‘Special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice’

‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’ Sept 2024

It is to be read alongside the following school policies:

Safeguarding policy

Intimate Care Policy

First Aid policy

Policy framework

The policy framework describes the essential criteria for how the school can meet the needs of children and young people with long-term conditions including diabetes

1. This school is an inclusive community that supports and welcomes pupils with medical conditions.

This school is welcoming and supportive of pupils with medical conditions. It provides children with medical conditions with the same opportunities and access to activities (both school based and out-of-school) as other pupils. No child will be denied admission or prevented from taking up a place in this school because arrangements for their medical condition have not been made.

This school will listen to the views of pupils and parents.

Pupils and parents feel confident in the care they receive from this school and the level of that care meets their needs.

Staff understand the medical conditions of pupils at this school and that they may be serious, adversely affect a child's quality of life and impact on their ability to learn.

All staff understand their duty of care to children and young people and know what to do in the event of an emergency.

The whole school and local health community understand and support the medical conditions policy.

This school understands that all children with the same medical condition will not have the same needs.

The school recognises that duties in the Children and Families Act (England only), the Equality Act (England, Wales and Scotland) and the Disability Discrimination Act (Northern Ireland only) relate to children with disability or medical conditions is anticipatory

2. This school's medical conditions policy is drawn up in consultation with local key stakeholders within the health settings.

Stakeholders should include pupils, parents, school nurse, school staff, governors, the school employer and relevant local health services.

3. Relevant school staff understand and are trained in what to do in an emergency for children with medical conditions at this school.

Many school staff, including temporary or supply staff, are aware of the medical conditions at this school and all staff understand their duty of care to pupils in an emergency.

Relevant staff receive training in what to do in an emergency and this is refreshed at least once a year.

All children with a medical condition at this school have an individual healthcare plan (IHP), which explains what help they need in an emergency. The IHP will accompany a pupil should they need to attend hospital. Parental permission will be sought and recorded in the IHP for sharing the IHP within emergency care settings.

4. All staff understand and are trained in the school's general emergency procedures.

All staff, including temporary or supply staff, know what action to take in an emergency and receive updates at least yearly.

If a pupil needs to attend hospital, a member of staff (preferably known to the pupil) will stay with them until a parent arrives, or accompany a child taken to hospital by ambulance. They will not take pupils to hospital in their own car, unless there is exceptional circumstances and a parent cannot be contacted/gives permission.

5. This school has clear guidance on providing care and support and administering medication at school.

This school understands the importance of medication being taken and care received as detailed in the pupil's IHP.

This school will make sure that there are several members of staff who have been trained to administer the medication and meet the care needs of an individual child. This includes escort staff for home to school transport if necessary. This school will ensure that there are sufficient numbers of staff trained to cover any absences, staff turnover and other contingencies. This school's governing body has made sure that there is the appropriate level of insurance and liability cover in place.

This school will not give medication (prescription or non-prescription) to a child under 16 without a parent's written consent except in exceptional circumstances, and every effort will be made to encourage the pupil to involve their parent, while respecting their confidentiality.

When administering medication, for example pain relief, this school will check the maximum dosage and when the previous dose was given. Parents will be informed. This school will not give a pupil under 16 aspirin unless prescribed by a doctor.

This school will make sure that a trained member of staff is available to accompany a pupil with a medical condition on an off-site visit, including overnight stays.

Parents at this school understand that they should let the school know immediately if their child's needs change.

If a pupil misuses their medication, or anyone else's, their parent is informed as soon as possible and the school's disciplinary procedures are followed.

6. This school has clear guidance on the storage of medication and equipment at school.

This school makes sure that all staff understand what constitutes an emergency for an individual child and makes sure that emergency medication/equipment is readily available wherever the child is in the school and on off-site activities, and is not locked away. Pupils may carry their emergency medication with them if they wish/this is appropriate.

Pupils should know exactly where to access their medication/equipment.

School will keep controlled drugs stored securely, but accessibly, with only named staff having access. Staff at this school can administer a controlled drug to a pupil once they have had specialist training.

This school will make sure that all medication is stored safely, and that pupils with medical conditions know where they are at all times and have access to them immediately.

This school will store medication that is in date and labelled in its original container where possible, in accordance with its instructions. The exception to this is insulin, which though must still be in date, will generally be supplied in an insulin injector pen or a pump.

Parents are asked to collect all medications/equipment at the end of the school term, and to provide new and in-date medication at the start of each term.

This school disposes of needles and other sharps in line with local policies. Sharps boxes are kept securely at school and will accompany a child on off-site visits. They are collected and disposed of in line with local authority procedures.

7. This school has clear guidance about record keeping.

Parents at this school are asked if their child has any medical conditions on the enrolment form.

This school uses an IHP to record the support an individual pupil needs around their medical condition. The IHP is developed with the pupil (where appropriate), parent, school staff, specialist nurse (where appropriate) and relevant healthcare services.

This school has a centralised register of IHPs, and an identified member of staff has the responsibility for this register.

IHPs are regularly reviewed, at least every year or whenever the pupil's needs change.

The pupil (where appropriate) parents, specialist nurse (where appropriate) and relevant healthcare services hold a copy of the IHP. Other school staff are made aware of and have access to the IHP for the pupils in their care.

This school makes sure that the pupil's confidentiality is protected.

This school seeks permission from parents before sharing any medical information with any other party.

This school meets with the pupil (where appropriate), parent, specialist nurse (where appropriate) and relevant healthcare services prior to any overnight or extended day visit to discuss and make a plan for any extra care requirements that may be needed. This is recorded in the pupil's IHP which accompanies them on the visit.

This school keeps an accurate record of all medication administered, including the dose, time, date and supervising staff.

This school makes sure that all staff providing support to a pupil have received suitable training and ongoing support, to make sure that they have confidence to provide the necessary support and that they fulfil the requirements set out in the pupil's IHP. This should be provided by the specialist nurse/school nurse/other suitably qualified healthcare professional and/or the parent. The specialist nurse/school nurse/other suitably qualified healthcare professional will confirm their competence, and this school keeps an up-to-date record of all training undertaken and by whom.

8. This school ensures that the whole school environment is inclusive and favourable to pupils with medical conditions. This includes the physical environment, as well as social, sporting and educational activities.

This school is committed to providing a physical environment accessible to pupils with medical conditions and pupils are consulted to ensure this accessibility. This school is also committed to an accessible physical environment for out-of-school activities.

This school makes sure the needs of pupils with medical conditions are adequately considered to ensure their involvement in structured and unstructured activities, extended school activities and residential visits.

All staff are aware of the potential social problems that pupils with medical conditions may experience and use this knowledge, alongside the school's bullying policy, to help prevent and deal with any problems. They use opportunities such as PSHE and science lessons to raise awareness of medical conditions to help promote a positive environment.

This school understands the importance of all pupils taking part in physical activity and that all relevant staff make appropriate adjustments to physical activity sessions to make sure they are accessible to all pupils. This includes out-of-school clubs and team sports.

This school understands that all relevant staff are aware that pupils should not be forced to take part in activities if they are unwell. They should also be aware of pupils who have been advised to avoid/take special precautions during activity, and the potential triggers for a pupil's medical condition when exercising and how to minimise these.

This school makes sure that pupils have the appropriate medication/equipment/food with them during physical activity.

This school makes sure that pupils with medical conditions can participate fully in all aspects of the curriculum and enjoy the same opportunities at school as any other child, and that appropriate adjustments and extra support are provided.

All school staff understand that frequent absences, or symptoms, such as limited concentration and frequent tiredness, may be due to a pupil's medical condition.

This school makes sure that a risk assessment is carried out before any out-of-school visit, including work experience and educational placements. The needs of pupils with medical conditions are considered during this process and plans are put in place for any additional medication, equipment or support that may be required.

9. This school is aware of the common triggers that can make common medical conditions worse or can bring on an emergency.

This school is committed to identifying and reducing triggers both at school and on out-of-school visits.

The IHP details an individual pupil's triggers and details how to make sure the pupil remains safe throughout the whole school day and on out-of-school activities. Risk assessments are carried out on all out-of-school activities, taking into account the needs of pupils with medical needs.

This school reviews all medical emergencies and incidents to see how they could have been avoided, and changes school policy according to these reviews.

10. The medical conditions policy is regularly reviewed, evaluated and updated. Updates are produced every year.

In evaluating the policy, this school seeks feedback from key stakeholders including pupils, parents, school healthcare professionals, specialist nurses and other relevant healthcare professionals, school staff, local emergency care services, governors and the school employer. The views of pupils with medical conditions are central to the evaluation process.

**The term 'parent' implies any person or body with parental responsibility such as a foster parent, carer, guardian or local authority.*