

HINTON ST GEORGE CHURCH of ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Let Your Light Shine'



SUPPORTING PUPILS AT SCHOOL WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS AND MANAGING MEDICINES POLICY

Reviewed: November 2023
Frequency of Review: Every two years
Next Review Date: November 2025

Signed : _____
on behalf of Governing Body

Date _____

- DfE *Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions*, updated December 2015.
A copy of which is kept with this policy.

Hinton St George C of E Primary School

This Policy should be taken and used as part of Hinton St George Church of England School's overall strategy and implemented within the context of our vision, Instrument of Government, aims and values as a Church of England School.

This Policy statement has been formally adopted by the governing body, in consultation with the headteacher, and will be reviewed at the frequency recorded on this cover page.

HINTON ST GEORGE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions And Managing Medicines Policy

SUPPORTING PUPILS AT SCHOOL WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Pupils' medical needs may be broadly summarised as being of two types:

- (a) **Short-term**, affecting their participation in school activities when they are on a course of medication.
- (b) **Long-term**, potentially limiting their access to education and requiring extra care and support

Schools have a responsibility for the health and safety of pupils in their care. The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 makes employers responsible for the health and safety of employees and anyone else on the premises. In the case of pupils with special medical needs, the responsibility of the employer is to make sure that safety measures cover the needs of all pupils at the school. This may mean making special arrangements for particular pupils so that they can access their full and equal entitlement to all aspects of the curriculum. In this case, individual procedures may be required. Hinton St George Church of England Primary School is responsible for making sure that relevant staff know about and are, if necessary, trained to provide any additional support that pupils with medical conditions (long or short term) may need.

The Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on schools to make arrangements for children with medical conditions. **Pupils with medical conditions have the same right of admission to school as other children and cannot be refused admission or excluded from school on medical grounds alone.** However, teachers and other school staff in charge of pupils have a common law duty to act 'in loco parentis' and must ensure the safety of all pupils in their care. To this end, we reserve the right to refuse admittance to a child with an infectious disease, where there may be a risk posed to others or to the health of the child involved. This duty also extends to teachers leading activities taking place off the school site.

The prime responsibility for a child's health lies with the parent, who is responsible for the child's medication and must supply the school with all relevant information needed in order for proficient care to be given to the child. The school takes advice and guidance from a range of sources, including the School Nurse, Health professionals and the child's GP in addition to the information provided by parents in the first instance. This enables us to ensure we assess and manage risk and minimise disruption to the learning of the child and others who may be affected (for example, peers).

OUR AIMS

- To support pupils with medical conditions, so that they have full access to education, including physical education and educational visits.
- To ensure that school staff involved in the care of children with medical needs are fully informed and adequately trained by a professional in order to administer support or prescribed medication.
- To comply fully with the Equality Act 2010 for pupils who may have disabilities or special educational needs.
- To write, with healthcare professionals, Individual Healthcare Plans where necessary.
- To respond sensitively, discreetly and quickly to situations where a child with a medical condition requires support.
- To keep, monitor and review appropriate records.

UNACCEPTABLE PRACTICE

While school staff will use their professional discretion in supporting individual pupils, it is unacceptable to:

- Prevent children from accessing their medication
- Assume every child with the same condition requires the same treatment
- Ignore the views of the child or their parents / carers; ignore medical advice
- Prevent children with medical conditions accessing the full curriculum, unless specified in their Individual Healthcare plan
- Penalise children for their attendance record where this is related to a medical condition

- Prevent children from eating, drinking or taking toilet breaks where this is part of effective management of their condition
- Require parents to administer medicine where this interrupts their working day
- Require parents to accompany their child with a medical condition on a school trip as a condition of that child taking part

ENTITLEMENT

Hinton St George Church of England Primary School provides full access to the curriculum for every child wherever possible. We believe that pupils with medical needs have equal entitlement and must receive necessary care and support so that they can take advantage of this. However, we also recognise that employees have rights in relation to supporting pupils with medical needs, as follows:

Employees may:

- Choose whether or not they wish to be involved
- Receive appropriate training
- Work to clear guidelines
- Bring to the attention of the Senior Leadership Team any concern or matter relating to the support of pupils with medical conditions

EXPECTATIONS

It is expected that:

- Parents will inform school of any medical condition which affects their child.
- Parents will supply school with appropriately prescribed medication, where the dosage information and regime is clearly printed by a pharmacy on the container.
- Parents will ensure that medicines to be given in school are in date and clearly labelled.
- Parents will co-operate in training their children to self-administer medicine if this is appropriate and that staff members will only be involved if this is not possible.
- Medical professionals involved in the care of children with medical needs will fully inform staff beforehand of the child's condition, its management, and implications for the school life of that individual.
- Hinton St George Church of England Primary School will ensure that, where appropriate, children are involved in discussing the management and administration of their medicines and are able to access and administer their medicine if this is part of their Individual Healthcare plan (for example, an inhaler).
- School staff will liaise as necessary with healthcare professionals and services in order to access the most up-to-date advice about a pupil's medical needs and will seek support and training in the interests of the pupil.
- Transitional arrangements between schools will be completed in such a way that Hinton St George Church of England Primary School will ensure full disclosure of relevant medical information, Healthcare plans and support needed in good time for the child's receiving school to adequately prepare.
- Individual Healthcare plans will be written, monitored and reviewed regularly alongside relevant medical professionals and will include the views and wishes of the child and parent.

PROCEDURE

The Governing Body of Hinton St George Church of England Primary School ensures that an appropriate level of insurance is in place and reflects the level of risk presented by children with medical conditions.

INFORMATION

Children with serious medical conditions will have a brief description of condition, along with any other necessary information, in the staffroom. Children with medical conditions which may require emergency attention, e.g. epilepsy, diabetes, will have their names and an Individual Healthcare Plan clearly accessible in their classroom, and all adults dealing with the child will have their attention drawn to this information. All other medical conditions will be noted from children's SIMs records and this information will be provided to class teachers annually.

IN AN EMERGENCY

In a medical emergency, some staff have been appropriately trained to administer emergency paediatric first aid if necessary. If possible, the school's key First Aiders, will be asked to attend.

If an ambulance needs to be called, staff will:

- Outline the full condition and how it occurred
- Give details regarding the child's date of birth, address, parents' names and any known medical conditions.

Children will be accompanied to hospital by a member of staff if this is deemed appropriate. Staff cars should not be used for this purpose. Parents must always be called in a medical emergency, but do not need to be present for a child to be taken to hospital.

MANAGING MEDICINES ON SCHOOL PREMISES

Only essential medicines will be administered during the school day. These will be only those prescribed by a doctor. Parents must submit a written permission slip before any medicine is administered (Appendix 1). Medicines to be given during the school day must be in their original container. Controlled drugs can also be administered, subject to all other conditions as described in this Policy. The following to be noted:-

- medicines should only be administered at school when it would be detrimental to a child's health or school attendance not to do so
- no child under 16 should be given prescription or non-prescription medicines without their parent's written consent – except in exceptional circumstances where the medicine has been prescribed to the child without the knowledge of the parents. In such cases, every effort should be made to encourage the child or young person to involve their parents while respecting their right to confidentiality. Schools should set out the circumstances in which non-prescription medicines may be administered
- a child under 16 should never be given medicine containing aspirin unless prescribed by a doctor. Medication, e.g., for pain relief, should never be administered without first checking maximum dosages and when the previous dose was taken. Parents should be informed.
- where clinically possible, medicines should be prescribed in dose frequencies which enable them to be taken outside school hours
- schools should only accept prescribed medicines that are in-date, labelled, provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include instructions for administration, dosage and storage. The exception to this is insulin which must still be in date, but will generally be available to schools inside an insulin pen or a pump, rather than in its original container
- all medicines should be stored safely. Children should know where their medicines are at all times and be able to access them immediately. Where relevant, they should know who holds the key to the storage facility. Medicines and devices such as asthma inhalers, blood glucose testing meters and adrenaline pens should be always readily available to children and not locked away. This is particularly important to consider when outside of school premises, e.g., on school trips or at the school field
- a child who has been prescribed a controlled drug may legally have it in their possession if they are competent to do so but passing it to another child for use is an offence. Monitoring arrangements may be necessary. Schools should otherwise keep controlled drugs that have been prescribed for a pupil securely stored in a non-portable container and only named staff should have access. Controlled drugs should be easily accessible in an emergency. A record should be kept of any doses used and the amount of the controlled drug held in school
- school staff may administer a controlled drug to the child for whom it has been prescribed. Staff administering medicines should do so in accordance with the prescriber's instructions. Schools should keep a record of all medicines administered to individual children, stating what, how and how much was administered, when and by whom (Appendix 2). Any side effects of the medication to be administered at school should be noted
- when no longer required, medicines should be returned to the parent to arrange for safe disposal. Sharps boxes should always be used for the disposal of needles and other sharps

EPI-PEN

Any member of staff can administer an Epi-pen in an emergency. The pen (cap off) should be pushed against the child's thigh, through clothing if necessary. The pen should be held for a count of 10 seconds before being withdrawn. An ambulance must be called immediately for a child who may require an Epi-pen. Parents should be contacted after this call has been made.

NON-PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Staff should **never** give non-prescribed drugs to a child unless there is specific written permission from the parent. This will be an exceptional situation rather than the norm.

A child under 16 should never be given aspirin or medicines containing ibuprofen unless prescribed by a doctor.

RECORD KEEPING

Parents should inform the school of the medicines their child needs. School will check that the medicine is in its original container and that the dispenser's instructions are clear.

A written record of medicines administered (Appendix 2) will be kept in the school office. A copy of consent form (Appendix 1) will also be kept in the office.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

All medicines required by children on such undertakings will be part of the overall risk assessment for the visit. Medicines not self-managed by pupils will be in the safe care of a nominated member of staff. This colleague should be one who is willing to carry this responsibility. Complex medical needs for a specific pupil may necessitate a health plan for the visit. If any member of staff is concerned, they should seek advice from the school office.

SPORTING ACTIVITIES

Given the distance between the school field and the school it would be advisable to prepare a risk assessment of medical needs of individual children, including those who may suffer from an asthma attack. Asthma relievers (not self-managed) should be taken to the field in a box or container and be supervised by a support member of staff.

COMPLAINTS

Should parents be unhappy with any aspect of their child's care at Hinton St George Church of England Primary School, they must discuss their concerns with the school. This will be with the child's class teacher in the first instance, with whom any issues should be managed. If this does not resolve the problem or allay concern, the issue should be brought to the attention of the Headteacher. In the unlikely event of this not resolving the issue, the parents must make a formal complaint using the Hinton St George Primary School Complaints Procedure.

SCHOOL NURSE

Somerset School Nurse Team

Tel: 0300 3230114

Email: schoolnurseduty@somerset.gov.uk

PAEDIATRIC FIRST AIDERS

James Batchelor, Catherine Wyatt, Becky Blunn, Louis Best, Suzy Moores (School)

Jodie Brown & Natalie Jones (Pre-School)

BASIC FIRST AIDERS

All other teachers and classroom based support staff who are not paediatric first aiders.

NAMED PEOPLE FOR ADMINISTERING MEDICINES:

All First Aiders.

PARENTAL AGREEMENT FOR SCHOOL TO ADMINISTER MEDICINE

The school will not give your child medicine unless you complete and sign this form, and the school or setting has a policy that staff can administer medicine

Name of Child: _____

Class: _____

Medical condition/illness: _____

Medicine

Name/Type of Medicine (as described on the container): _____

Dosage and method: _____

Timing: _____

Dates to administer from & to: _____ From _____ To _____

Are there any side effects that the school needs to know about? _____

Self Administration: _____ Yes/No (delete as appropriate)

Contact Details

Name: _____

Daytime Telephone No: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Address: _____

I understand that I must deliver the medicine personally to a responsible member of staff for safe storage and accept that medicine will only be administered at school when it would be detrimental to a child’s health or school attendance not to do so.

I understand that I must notify the school/setting of any changes in writing.

Date: _____

Signature(s): _____

Relationship to child: _____

Record of medicines administered in school to all children

Date	Child's Name	Time	Name of medicine	Dose given	Reactions	Staff Signature	Print Name	Parent Signature

