



Oaklands Junior School

Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions

Review: the policy will be reviewed annually by Oaklands School governors.

Approved: Autumn 2023

Next Review: Autumn 2024

SUPPORTING PUPILS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Purpose of the document

This document sets out how the school will ensure that any pupil with medical needs is enabled to take the fullest part in the opportunities for learning presented to all other pupils. This document sets out how we will make arrangements in line with the statutory guidance for maintained schools and academies.

Background

The Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on governors to make arrangements for supporting pupils at their school with medical conditions. The Department for Education (DfE) have produced statutory guidance for schools and this can be accessed at [‘Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions’](#).

We are aware that many of the children and young people with medical needs will have lifelong conditions but others may have medical needs which are temporary, both may change over time. Pupils with medical conditions may require support at school to manage their education due to absence or with the emotional impacts which are often associated with medical conditions. Some pupils with medical conditions will also have special educational needs (SEND) which are supported through an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC). Where this is the case, we will integrate the Health Care planning into the EHC. Where pupils have a current Statement of SEN, we will review the Health Care Plan alongside the Statement review process.

The Finance and Premises Committee will review this document biennially on behalf of the governing body, as part of its responsibility for health and safety matters in the school.

Our Commitment to Pupils and Families

This document sits alongside the school’s SEND policies. The underlying aim of both is to ensure that all pupils in our school can access fully the life of the school, play a full and appropriate part in developing plans and provision and are enabled to manage their condition with increasing independence and confidence.

Where pupils have medical needs, we **will**:

- Follow the model process for developing Health Care Plans (Appendix A).
- Ensure that sufficient staff are trained to support an individual medical need, including cover for staff absence and turnover. This is the responsibility of the headteacher.

- Ensure that all relevant staff are made aware of the pupil's condition. This is the responsibility of the headteacher and/or SENCO (Special Educational Needs Coordinator).
- Ensure that any supply teachers are briefed. This is the responsibility of the class teacher (or headteacher for sickness cover).
- Ensure that risk assessments are undertaken for school visits, holidays and activities outside the normal school day. This is the responsibility of the class teacher.
- Monitor Individual Health Care Plans. This is the responsibility of the headteacher and/or SENCO.

School staff will always use their professional discretion when managing pupil behaviour and the information provided to them will ensure that the decisions they make are not discriminatory and support reasonable adjustments.

In our school we **will not normally**

- prevent children from easily accessing their inhalers and medication and administering their medication when and where necessary;
- assume that every child with the same condition requires the same treatment;
- ignore the views of the child or their parents (although we may sometimes challenge it);
- ignore medical evidence or opinion
- send children with medical conditions home frequently or prevent them from staying for normal school activities, including lunch, unless this is specified in their individual healthcare plans;
- if the child becomes ill, send them to the school office or medical room unaccompanied or with someone unsuitable;
- penalise children for their attendance record if their absences are related to their medical condition, e.g. hospital appointments, recovery time following illness or treatment. (*Many of these will be able to be notified in advance but some of these may be unpredictable, e.g. a reaction to treatment*);
- prevent pupils from drinking, eating or taking toilet or other breaks whenever they need to in order to manage their medical condition effectively;
- require parents, or otherwise make them feel obliged, to attend school to administer medication or provide medical support to their child, including with toileting issues; or
- prevent children from participating, or create unnecessary barriers to children participating in any aspect of school life, including school trips, e.g. by requiring parents to accompany the child.

Roles and responsibilities

In addition to the responsibilities of the governing body, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils requires input from a number of practitioners and the statutory guidance sets out the responsibilities of all parties. These are set out in as Appendix B. As part of those responsibilities, the school is required to have a policy for managing medicines on the premises.

Training and support

The training needs of staff will be addressed through each Health Care Plan. General, certified First Aid courses do not confirm that a person can deliver support to pupils with medical conditions. In order to ensure the confidence of staff, pupils and families and provide safe and effective support we

- identify staff who will support individual or groups of pupils
- in partnership with health colleagues

provide supporting staff with information about the medical condition
ensure these staff are trained and confirmed as competent by health colleagues
review training needs at least annually and when there is a significant change
annually provide awareness training for all staff on our policy

Emergency Procedures

All our Health Care Plans will contain personalised information on what staff need to do in an emergency. In addition, as with an emergency which can happen involving any pupil, staff will accompany a pupil to hospital and stay with them until a family member arrives. To ensure that the best response is able to be provided, staff calling emergency aid will use the prompt contained in Appendix G.

Managing Medicines

Refer to the school's Medical Procedures & Protocols document for managing day-to-day medical needs. This is a complementary document to this one, and in turn supports Health Care Plans.

First Aid

Refer to the school's Medical Procedures & Protocols document for managing day-to-day first aid needs. This is a complementary document to this one, and in turn supports Health Care Plans.

Prescribing

Medicines should always only be administered at school when it would be detrimental to a pupil's health or school attendance not to do so. We will liaise with health practitioners to ensure that, where clinically possible, medicines are prescribed in dose frequencies which enable them to be taken outside school hours.

Handling and Storage

We can 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 us inside an insulin pen or a pump, rather than in its original container.

All normal infection control measures, (e.g. appropriate gloving, hand washing and disposal) will be followed and any equipment required will be provided in school at all times.

Medicines which need to be locked away are stored securely. They are accessed by appropriately trained staff. Details of access to medicines which need to be readily or quickly available will be in each pupil's Health Care Plan. Arrangements for offsite activities will also be contained in the plan.

Medicines which are no longer required will be returned to the parent for safe disposal. We will always use sharps boxes for the disposal of needles and other sharps.

If controlled drugs are prescribed for a pupil they will be securely stored in a non-portable container and only named staff should have access. Controlled drugs will, however, be easily accessible in an emergency.

Parental Consent

We will administer or supervise medication in line with a pupil's Health Care Plan. We will administer non-prescription medicines as per our schools' medical policy and when Appendix D is completed. We will not administer any medication containing aspirin to a child under 16 unless it has been prescribed by a doctor.

Self-Management

After discussion with parents, pupils who are competent will be encouraged to take responsibility for managing their own medicines and procedures. This will be reflected within individual Health Care plans. Wherever possible, pupils will be allowed to carry their own medicines and relevant devices or be able to access their medicines for self-medication quickly and easily. Pupils who can take their medicines themselves or manage procedures may require an appropriate level of supervision and this will be provided. If it is not appropriate for a pupil to self-manage, then relevant staff will help to administer medicines and manage procedures. Arrangements for each pupil will be recorded on their Health Care Plan.

A pupil 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 and we will therefore monitor dosage to ensure the health and safety of all pupils in school.

Record Keeping

We keep a record of all medicines administered to individual children, stating what, how and how much was administered, when and by whom. Any side effects of the medication to be administered at school will be noted and parents informed. Examples of record keeping are at Appendix E.

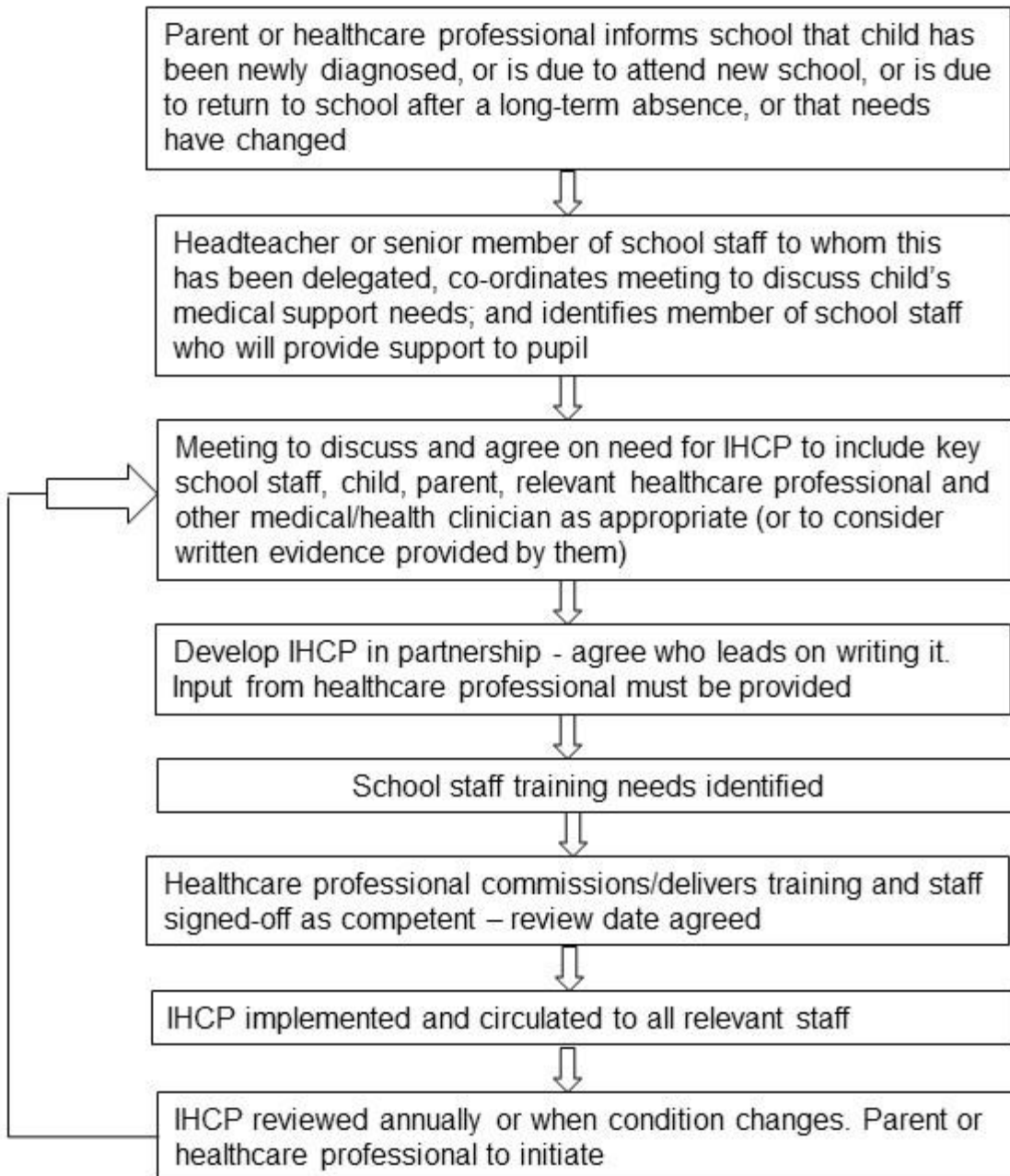
Insurance

Insurance is provided for the school. Check with the individual school for further details as there is a joint policy with the Infants' School. The policy covers the administration of medication. In the case of any medical procedures we always check that cover extends to that individual procedure.

Complaints

We will seek to resolve any concerns quickly at an informal stage. If this does not resolve the concern the complaints procedure should be followed. This is available via the school's office or website.

Appendix A:
Process for Developing Individual Health Care Plans



Appendix B:
Table of responsibilities set out in the statutory guidance ‘Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions’ December 2015

Person/body	Role/responsibility
Governing Body	must make arrangements to support pupils with medical conditions in school, including making sure that a policy for supporting pupils with medical conditions in school is developed and implemented. Governing bodies should ensure that sufficient staff have received suitable training and are competent before they take on responsibility to support children with medical conditions. They should ensure that pupils with medical conditions are supported to enable the fullest participation possible in all aspects of school life. They should also ensure that any members of school staff who provide support to pupils with medical conditions are able to access information and other teaching support materials as needed.
Headteachers	should ensure that their school’s policy is developed and effectively implemented with partners. This includes ensuring that all staff are aware of the policy for supporting pupils with medical conditions and understand their role in its implementation. Headteachers should ensure that all staff who need to know are aware of the child’s condition. They should also ensure that sufficient trained numbers of staff are available to implement the policy and deliver against all individual healthcare plans, including in contingency and emergency situations. This may involve recruiting a member of staff for this purpose. Headteachers have overall responsibility for the development of individual healthcare plans. They should also make sure that school staff are appropriately insured and are aware that they are insured to support pupils in this way. They should contact the school nursing service in the case of any child who has a medical condition that may require support at school, but who has not yet been brought to the attention of the school nurse.
School Staff	any member of school staff may be asked to provide support to pupils with medical conditions, including the administering of medicines, although they cannot be required to do so. Although administering medicines is not part of teachers’ professional duties, they should take into account the needs of pupils with medical conditions that they teach. School staff should receive sufficient and suitable training and achieve the necessary level of competency before they take on responsibility to support children with medical conditions. Any member of school staff should know what to do and respond accordingly when they become aware that a pupil with a medical condition needs help.
School Nurses	every school has access to school nursing services. They are responsible for notifying the school when a child has been identified as having a medical condition which will require support in school. Wherever possible, they should do this before the child starts at the school. They would not usually have an extensive role in ensuring that schools are taking appropriate steps to support children with medical conditions, but may support staff on implementing a child’s individual healthcare plan and provide advice and liaison, for example on training. School nurses can liaise with lead clinicians locally on appropriate support for the child and associated staff training needs; for example, there are good models of local specialist nursing teams offering training to local school staff, hosted by a local school. Community nursing teams will also be a valuable potential resource for a school seeking advice and support in relation to children with a medical condition.
Other healthcare professionals, including GPs and paediatricians	should notify the school nurse when a child has been identified as having a medical condition that will require support at school. They may provide advice on developing healthcare plans. Specialist local health teams may be able to provide support in schools for children with particular conditions (e.g. asthma, diabetes, epilepsy).
Pupils	with medical conditions will often be best placed to provide information about how their condition affects them. They should be fully involved in discussions about their medical support needs and contribute as much as possible to the development of, and comply with, their individual healthcare plan. Other pupils will often be sensitive to the needs of those with medical conditions.

Parents/Carers	should provide the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs. They may in some cases be the first to notify the school that their child has a medical condition. Parents are key partners and should be involved in the development and review of their child's individual healthcare plan, and may be involved in its drafting. They should carry out any action they have agreed to as part of its implementation, e.g. provide medicines and equipment and ensure they or another nominated adult are contactable at all times.
Local authorities	are commissioners of school nurses for maintained schools and academies. Under Section 10 of the Children Act 2004, they have a duty to promote co-operation between relevant partners - such as governing bodies of maintained schools, proprietors of academies, clinical commissioning groups and NHS England - with a view to improving the wellbeing of children with regard to their physical and mental health, and their education, training and recreation. Local authorities and clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) must make joint commissioning arrangements for education, health and care provision for children and young people with SEN or disabilities (Section 26 of the Children and Families Act 2014). Local authorities should provide support, advice and guidance, including suitable training for school staff, to ensure that the support specified within individual healthcare plans can be delivered effectively. Local authorities should work with schools to support pupils with medical conditions to attend full time. Where pupils would not receive a suitable education in a mainstream school because of their health needs, the local authority has a duty to make other arrangements. Statutory guidance for local authorities sets out that they should be ready to make arrangements under this duty when it is clear that a child will be away from school for 15 days or more because of health needs (whether consecutive or cumulative across the school year).
Providers of health services	should co-operate with schools that are supporting children with a medical condition, including appropriate communication, liaison with school nurses and other healthcare professionals such as specialist and children's community nurses, as well as participating in locally developed outreach and training. Health services can provide valuable support, information, advice and guidance to schools, and their staff, to support children with medical conditions at school.
Clinical commissioning groups (CCGs)	commission other healthcare professionals such as specialist nurses. They should ensure that commissioning is responsive to children's needs, and that health services are able to co-operate with schools supporting children with medical conditions. They have a reciprocal duty to cooperate under Section 10 of the Children Act 2004 and must make joint commissioning arrangements for education, health and care provision for children and young people with SEN or disabilities (as described above for local authorities). Clinical commissioning groups should be responsive to local authorities and schools seeking to strengthen links between health services and schools, and consider how to encourage health services in providing support and advice (and can help with any potential issues or obstacles in relation to this). The local Health and Wellbeing Board will also provide a forum for local authorities and CCGs to consider with other partners, including locally elected representatives, how to strengthen links between education, health and care settings. Since 2013 Local Authorities have been responsible for commissioning public health services for school-aged children including school nursing. CCGs should be aware that this does not include clinical support for children in schools who have long-term conditions and disabilities, which remains a CCG commissioning responsibility.
Ofsted	their new common inspection framework came into effect on 1 September 2015, aimed at promoting greater consistency across inspection remits. Inspectors must consider how well a school meets the needs of the full range of pupils, including those with medical conditions. Key judgements will be informed by the progress and achievement of these children alongside those of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities, and also by pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Appendix C:
Letter inviting parents to contribute to
Individual Health Care Plan development

Dear Parent

Developing a Health Care Plan for _____

Thank you for informing us of _____ medical condition. I enclose a copy of the school's policy for supporting pupils at school with medical conditions for your information.

The next step is for us to write a Health Care Plan for _____. Individual Health Care Plans are developed in partnership between the school, parents, pupils, and the relevant healthcare professional who can advise on your child's medical condition. The aim is to ensure that we know how to support your child effectively and to provide clarity about what needs to be done, when and by whom. Not all children will require a Plan so, together, we will agree how your child's medical condition impacts on their ability to participate fully in school life, and the level of detail within plans will depend on the complexity of their condition and the degree of support needed.

We would like to hold a meeting at school and we suggest *dd/mm/yy* at ____am/pm. The meeting will involve *[the following people]*. Please let us know if you would like us to invite another medical practitioner, healthcare professional or specialist and provide any other evidence you would like us to consider at the meeting as soon as possible.

If you are unable to attend, please telephone us to see if we can make an alternative time available. If this is not possible it would be helpful if you could complete the attached individual healthcare plan template and return it, together with any relevant evidence, for consideration at the meeting. I *[or another member of staff involved in plan development or pupil support]* would be happy for you contact me *[them]* by email or to speak by phone if this would be helpful.

Yours sincerely

Appendix D: Parental agreement for school to administer long-term medicine

REQUEST FOR THE SCHOOL TO GIVE LONG TERM MEDICATION

The school will not give your child medicine unless you complete and sign this form and the Headteacher has agreed that school staff can administer the medication. This request must be renewed annually at the beginning of the academic year.

Details of Pupil			
Surname			
Forename(s)			
Address			
Date of Birth		Male/Female	
Class			
Condition or Illness			
Medication			
Name/Type of medication <small>(as described on the container)</small>			
How long will your child take this medication?	Start	Finish	Expiry
Full Directions for Use Dosage & Method			
Timing		Self Administration	Yes No
Procedures to take in an emergency			
I understand that I take the responsibility to ensure that sufficient medication is given to the school and that it has not expired.			
Contact Details			
Name		Daytime Telephone No	
Relationship to Pupil			
Address			
I understand that I must deliver the medicine personally to the school and accept that this is a service which the school is not obliged to undertake. All medication must be clearly labelled with child's name and dosage.			
Date		Signature(s)	
Relationship to Pupil			
Agreed by Headteacher		Seen by Teacher	

Appendix F Individual Health Care Plan

Pupil details			
Surname		[Child / young person's chosen picture]	
Other names			
Address			
Date of birth			
Language at home			
Child/ young person's parent/s or person responsible			
Address if different		Relationship to Child/young person	
Telephone numbers		work	
First contact		home	
		mobile	

Hospital or clinic contact		GP	
Name		Name	
Phone		Contact	

I am XXX and I have YYY	
In school this means	At home this means

This is how I like to be helped to manage my condition

I carry my own medication		I administer my own medication	
My medication is stored for me		I am helped to administer my medication	
I have an emergency plan		An adult gives me my medication	

If this section has been completed by or with someone else please fill in the details below

Name		Relationship	
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Equipment, diet or medication needs in school

What	When	Who	Review date

Any side effects of my medication *child's symptoms, triggers, signs, treatments, facilities, equipment or devices, environmental issues etc*

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A general risk assessment for regular out of school activities. *Any activity which is not regular, is off school premises or is an extended activity eg holiday will need an individual risk assessment*

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Key people within school who need to know about my condition

Name	Role	Name	Role

This is my emergency plan

How people know there is a problem	What actions need to happen
Who is responsible in an emergency in school	
Who is responsible in an emergency off site	

These people support me in managing my condition

Name	Role	Contact details	Advice given

Non medical support which helps me to access the full life of the school	
Area of need/impact	What provision will be made available

Staff Training undertaken/required		
Who	What	When

Date this Health Plan will be reviewed	
People who helped draw up the Plan	
Plan sent to	

Signatures		
	Role	Date
	Pupil	
	Parent/carer	
	For school	

Appendix G

Contacting Emergency Services

Request an ambulance - dial 999, ask for an ambulance and be ready with the information below. Make notes on this form.

Speak clearly and slowly and be ready to repeat information if asked.

1. school telephone number is: **01344 773496**
2. your name
3. your location as follows:

**Oaklands Junior School
Butler Road
Crowthorne**

4. state what the postcode is: **RG45 6QZ**
5. provide the exact location of the patient within the school site
6. provide the name of the child and a brief description of their symptoms
7. inform Ambulance Control of the best entrance to use
8. state that they will be met at that entrance
9. put a completed copy of this form beside the phone