



Cherry Tree School

Including Cherry Blossom Preschool

Supporting Pupils With Medical Conditions

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CONTENTS

- Statement of Intent
- Definition of Medical Conditions
- Rationale
- Aims
- Entitlement
- Training
- Expectations
- Care Plans
- Review

Statement of Intent

The governing board of Cherry Tree School 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 Children and Families Act 2014, from September 2014, places a duty on schools to make arrangements for children with medical conditions. Pupils with special medical needs have the same right of admission to school as other children and cannot be refused admission or excluded from school on medical grounds alone.

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.

Definition of Medical Conditions

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

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

Rationale

LAs and 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 who may be more at risk than their classmates. Individual procedures may be required. The employer is responsible for making sure that relevant staff know about and are, if necessary, trained to provide any additional support these pupils may need.

However, teachers and other school staff in charge of pupils have a common law duty to act in loco parentis and may need to take swift action in an emergency. This duty also extends to teachers leading activities taking place off the school site. This could extend to a need to administer medicine.

The prime responsibility for a child's health lies with the parent who is responsible for the child's medication and should supply the school with information. The school takes advice and guidance from the School Health Adviser who encourages self-administration of medication when possible. The School Health Team can be contacted at Grappenhall Clinic 01925 867830.

Aims

The school aims to:

- enable pupils, staff and parents understand how our school will support pupils with medical conditions;
- ensure pupils with medical conditions are properly supported to allow them to access the same education as other pupils, including school trips and sporting activities;
- ensure the safety of all children with medical conditions
- work with parents in providing medical care for their children;
- educate staff and children in respect of special medical needs;
- have a policy in place for Medication in Schools;
- liaise as necessary with medical services in support of the individual pupil;
- monitor and keep appropriate records

Entitlement

Our school is clear about the need to actively support pupils with medical conditions to participate in school trips and visits, or in sporting activities, and not prevent them from doing so.

The school will consider what reasonable adjustments need to be made to enable these pupils to participate fully and safely on school trips, visits and sporting activities.

Risk assessments will be carried out so that planning arrangements take account of any steps needed to ensure that pupils with medical conditions are included. In doing so, pupils, their parents and any relevant healthcare professionals will be consulted.

The school accepts that pupils with medical needs have a right to the full education available to other pupils and that they may need support to achieve this.

The school believes that pupils with medical needs should be enabled to have full attendance and receive the necessary proper care and support.

The school accepts all employees have rights in relation to supporting pupils with medical needs as follows:

- receive appropriate training;
- work to clear guidelines;

- bring to the attention of the management any concern or matter relating to supporting pupils with medical needs.

Training

Staff who are responsible for supporting pupils with medical needs will receive suitable and sufficient training to do so.

The training will be identified during the development or review of Care Plans.

Staff who provide support to pupils with medical conditions will be included in meetings where this is discussed.

The relevant healthcare professionals will lead on identifying the type and level of training required and will agree this with the SENDCO or Head Teacher. Training will be kept up to date. All staff will be first aid trained to deal with emergencies.

Expectations

It is expected that:

- Where parents have asked the school to administer the medication for their child they must ask the pharmacist to supply any such medication to be dispensed in a separate container, containing only the quantity required for school use. The prescription and dosage regime should be typed or printed clearly on the outside. The school will only administer medicines in which the dosage is required 4 times a day. The name of the pharmacist should be visible. Any medications not presented properly will not be accepted by school staff. Pupils should not bring in their own medicine. This should be brought into school by the parent and a form completed (Request for School to Administer Short-Term Medication);
- Medicines will be kept in the locked medicine cabinet in the Business Manager's office, unless they need to be refrigerated, in which case they will be kept in the medicine fridge, also in the Business Manager's office.
- The school will liaise with the School Health Service for advice about a pupil's special medical needs, and will seek support from the relevant practitioners where necessary and in the interests of the pupil;
- Any medicines brought into school by the staff e.g. headache tablets, inhalers for personal use should be stored and kept out of the reach of the pupils. Any staff medicine is the responsibility of the individual concerned and not the school.

Care Plans

- Care Plans are provided for those children that need one. They are developed with a suitable medical professional and parents.
- Plans will be reviewed at least annually, or earlier if there is evidence that the pupil's needs have changed.
- Plans will be developed with the pupil's best interests in mind and will set out: what needs to be done; when and by whom; and the level of support needed, including in emergencies.
- Separate arrangements or procedures required for school trips or other school activities outside of the normal school timetable that will ensure the pupil can participate, e.g. risk assessments. What to do in an emergency, including who to contact, and contingency arrangements.

Review

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

The next scheduled review date for this policy is October 2026.