



Supporting children with medical conditions in school

February 2023

Approved Date	February 2023
Review Date	February 2026

Shirley Heath Junior School

Medical Conditions in School

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

We will help to ensure they can:

- Be healthy.
- Stay safe.
- Enjoy and achieve.
- Make a positive contribution.
- Achieve economic wellbeing once they left school.

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

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

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

All staff understands the medical conditions that affect pupils at this school. Staff receives 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 are

Mrs K Evans and Mrs G Mills

This policy should be read alongside Solihull's "The Administration of Medicines in School Settings and Settings: A Policy Document (6th Edition) 2015 and "Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions: Statutory guidance for Governing bodies of maintained schools and proprietors of academies in England" DFE 2014.

This policy will be reviewed every **3 Years** and is next due to be reviewed in **February 2026**

It is available on our website www.shirley-heath.solihull.sch.uk

Complaints by parents or others should be discussed initially, as appropriate with the class teacher or Head Teacher. It is desirable that complaints should be dealt with informally, but if that is not possible, then a written, formal complaint should be registered with the Head Teacher, unless it is a matter concerning the Head Teacher, when it should be directed to the Chair of Governors. Parents may obtain a copy of the full complaints procedure from the school website.

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 conditions have not been made.
- The 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 understands 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 understands 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 and the Equality Act relate to children with disability or medical conditions.
2. **This school's medical conditions policy is drawn up in consultation with a wide range of local key stakeholders within both the school and health settings (including Local Authority, School Nurse and other Health Officials)**
 3. **The medical conditions policy is supported by a clear communication plan for staff, parents/carers and other stakeholders to ensure its full implementation.**
 - Pupils, parents, relevant local healthcare staff, and other external stakeholders are informed of and reminded about the medical conditions policy through clear communication channels for example the school website, curriculum and arranged meetings.
 4. **All staff understand and are trained in what to do in an emergency for children with medical conditions at this school.**
 - All school staff including temporary or supply staff, are aware of the medical conditions at this school and understand their duty of care to pupils in an emergency.
 - All staff receive training in what to do in an emergency and this is refreshed at least once a year.
 - This school will, in partnership with parents and Health care professionals, give careful consideration to whether an individual healthcare plan (IHP) is appropriate or proportionate. The development of a plan will be led by.....Mrs G Mills.....
 - A pupil's IHP will explain 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.
 5. **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.
 6. **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 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. The 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.

- This school will not require parents, or otherwise make them feel obligated, to attend school to administer medication or provide medical support to their child, including with toileting issues.
- 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 Policy & Procedures are followed.

7. 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. Emergency medication/equipment is stored in the 1st Aid Cupboard in the School office or classroom
- The 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. Medication will be stored in the School office or classroom.
- The 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 long-term medications/equipment at the end of the school term, and to provide new and in-date medication at the start of each term. Once a course of short-term medication is completed, it should be collected by parents to dispose of appropriately.
- This school disposes of needles and other sharps as instructed by Health Officials. Sharps boxes are kept securely at school and will accompany a child on off-site visits. They are collected and disposed of appropriately by parents.

8. This school has clear guidance about record keeping.

- Parents at this school are asked if their child has any medical conditions when joining the school.
- Where appropriate and proportionate, this school uses an IHP (Individual Health Care Plan) 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 responsibility for this register.
- IHPs are regularly reviewed at least every year or whenever the pupil's needs change (as advised by Health Officials)
- The pupil (where appropriate) parents, specialist nurse (where appropriate) and relevant healthcare services hold a copy of the IHP. Other school staff is made aware of and have access to the IHP for the pupils in care.
- The 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.

- The school makes sure all staff providing support to a pupil have received suitable training and on-going support, to make sure that they have the 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 (where appropriate), and this school keeps an up-to-date record of all training undertaken and by whom (as appropriate).
9. **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 activities 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 conditions 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 understands that frequent absences, or symptoms, such as limited concentration and frequent tiredness, may be due to a pupil's medical condition. This school will not penalise pupils for their medical condition.
 - This school will refer pupils with medical conditions who are finding it difficult to keep up educationally to the SENCO who will liaise with the pupil (where appropriate), parent and the pupil's healthcare professional.
 - All pupils at this school learn what to do in an emergency.
 - 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.
10. **This school is aware of the common triggers that can make common medical conditions worse or can bring on an emergency. The school actively works towards reducing or eliminating these health and safety risks.**
- The school is committed to identifying and reducing triggers both at school and out-of-school visits.
 - School staff has been given training and written information on medical conditions which includes avoiding/reducing exposure to common triggers. It has a list of the triggers for pupils

with medical conditions at this school and is actively working towards reducing/eliminating these health and safety risks e.g. if a pupil has a severe nut allergy, school may consider asking staff/parents of other children not to bring in peanut butter sandwiches.

- The IHP details an individual pupil's triggers and details how to make sure the pupil remains safe throughout the whole school day and 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.
- The school reviews all medical emergencies and incidents to see how they could have been avoided, and changes school policy according to these reviews.

11. Each member of the school and health community knows their roles and responsibilities in maintaining and implementing an effective medical conditions policy.

- The school works in partnership with all relevant parties including the pupil (where appropriate), parent, school's Governing Body, all school staff, employers and healthcare professionals to ensure that the policy is planned, implemented and maintained successfully.
- The roles and responsibilities for all relevant parties are:

Head teacher

To be aware of children with medical conditions, communicate information to all stakeholders as appropriate and ensure all steps are taken to support the pupils, their parents and avoid any risks. To organise and facilitate training for staff as required.

Governors

To monitor and evaluate the medical conditions in school policy.

Teachers and support staff

To be aware of the pupils in their care and their medical needs, to liaise with all the stakeholders, to ensure they take appropriate risk assessments before trips and relevant activities, to ensure they take appropriate medications on any trips or visits outside of school. To participate in CPD as required.

Trained designated staff

School 1st aiders to ensure they are aware of children with medical needs. Monitoring medicines/equipment/plans regularly

SENCO

To ensure that all educational and care needs are met.

12. 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.