



Supporting Students with Medical Conditions Policy

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Marshfields School adheres to the duty as stated in the Children and Families Act 2014 that students with medical conditions will have the same right of admission to our school as other students and will not be refused admission or excluded from school on medical grounds. Appropriate levels of assessments will be undertaken to establish and determine what support students with medical conditions require. This will be done in partnership with parents and health professionals.

The prime responsibility for a students' health rests with parents. It is anticipated that parents/carers will ensure that appropriate information is provided for the school that enables proficient management and a good understanding of their child's medical condition; this includes working in partnership in the management of any medicines administered at school.

Marshfields School takes advice and guidance from a range of sources, including the School Nurse, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists and other Health professionals in addition to the information provided by parents in the first instance. This enables us to manage support effectively and to minimise any disruption to learning.

1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Students, staff and parents understand how our school will support students with medical conditions
- Students with medical conditions are properly supported to allow them to access the same education as other students, including school trips and sporting activities
- To ensure that parents and children have confidence in the medical support arranged in school.
- To work in partnership with Health Service colleagues.
- To be fully compliant with the Equality Act 2010 and its duties.
- To manage medicines within school in accordance with government and local advice.
- To keep, maintain and monitor records as detailed in this policy.
- To write and to monitor Individual Healthcare Plans, in partnership with health professionals.
- To ensure that the students in our school are safe and are able to attend school regularly with their medical condition.
- To support students with complex medical conditions and or long term medical needs in partnership with Health professionals and parents to enable their access to education.
- To adhere to the statutory guidance contained in “Supporting students at school with medical conditions” (DfE April 2014)

The Board of Governors will implement this policy by:

- Making sure sufficient staff are suitably trained
- Making staff aware of student’s condition, where appropriate
- Making sure there are cover arrangements to ensure someone is always available to support students with medical conditions
- Providing supply teachers with appropriate information about the policy and relevant students
- Developing and monitoring individual healthcare plans (IHPs)

The named person with responsibility for implementing this policy is Debbie Drane, Assistant Headteacher.

This person will ensure that staff are appropriately aware of the medical conditions of children with whom they work and any confidential information pertinent to the medical condition is entrusted to individual staff.

This person is also responsible for ensuring risk assessments are completed in relation to moving and handling and the completion of intimate health care plans.

2. Legislation and statutory responsibilities

This policy meets the requirements under Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014, which places a duty on Governors to make arrangements for supporting students at their school with medical conditions.

It is also based on the Department for Education’s statutory guidance: Supporting students at school with medical conditions.

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 The Board of Governors

The Board of Governors have ultimate responsibility to make arrangements to support students with medical conditions. The Board of Governors will ensure that sufficient staff have received suitable training and are competent before they are responsible for supporting children with medical conditions.

3.2 The headteacher

The headteacher will:

- Ensure that there is a sufficient number of trained staff available to implement this policy and deliver against all individual healthcare plans (IHPs), including contingency and emergency situations
- Make sure that school staff are appropriately insured and aware that they are insured to support students in this way
- Ensure that systems are in place for obtaining information about a child's medical needs and that this information is kept up to date

3.3 The Assistant Headteacher and the Student Support Team (Medical) are responsible for:

- The day-to-day implementation and management of the Supporting Students with Medical Conditions Policy and procedures of Marshfields School.
- Ensuring the policy is developed effectively with partner agencies.
- Make sure all staff are aware of this policy and understand their role in its implementation
- Liaising with healthcare professionals and the Local Authority regarding the training required for staff
- Making staff who need to know aware of a child's medical condition and the implications for meeting a child's needs.
- Developing and keeping up to date any Individual Healthcare Plans (IHCPs) in agreement with Healthcare professionals and parents as necessary
- Ensuring a sufficient number of trained members of staff are available to implement the policy and deliver IHCPs in normal, contingency and emergency situations.
- Ensuring that the school medical room is contacted in the case of any child who has a medical condition.
- Liaising locally with healthcare professionals on appropriate support and adjustments required.
- Liaising with parents where medication stocks need to be replenished.

3.4 Staff

Supporting students with medical conditions during school hours is not the sole responsibility of one person. Any member of staff may be asked to provide support to students with medical conditions, although they will not be required to do so. This includes the administration of medicines.

Staff who take on the responsibility to support students with medical conditions will receive sufficient and suitable training, and will achieve the necessary level of competency before doing so.

Teachers will take into account the needs of students with medical conditions that they teach. All staff will know what to do and respond accordingly when they become aware that a student with a medical condition needs help.

- Taking appropriate steps to support children with medical conditions.
- Where necessary, making reasonable adjustments to include students with medical conditions into lessons.

- Administering medication (Medical room trained first aiders only).
- Undertaking training to achieve the necessary competency for supporting students with medical conditions where required.
- Familiarising themselves with procedures detailing how to respond when they become aware that a student with a medical condition needs help.
- A First Aid rota will be displayed to all staff to ensure that someone is available to support students with medical conditions at all times. The Medical Room is manned daily during break and lunch times.
- The Student Support Team (Medical) will, where necessary, make contact with schools with students transitioning to Marshfields to ensure smooth transition and clear arrangements and procedures are in place prior to the student starting at the school.

3.5 Parents

Parents will:

- Provide the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs
- Be involved in the development and review of their child's IHP and may be involved in its drafting
- Carry out any action they have agreed to as part of the implementation of the IHP e.g. provide medicines and equipment

3.6 Students

Students with medical conditions will often be best placed to provide information about how their condition affects them. Students should be fully involved in discussions about their medical support needs and contribute as much as possible to the development of their IHPs. They are also expected to comply with their IHPs.

3.7 School nurses and other healthcare professionals

Our school nursing service will notify the school when a student has been identified as having a medical condition that will require support in school. This will be before the student starts school, wherever possible.

Healthcare professionals, such as GPs and pediatricians, will liaise with the school nurses and notify them of any students identified as having a medical condition.

4. Equal opportunities

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

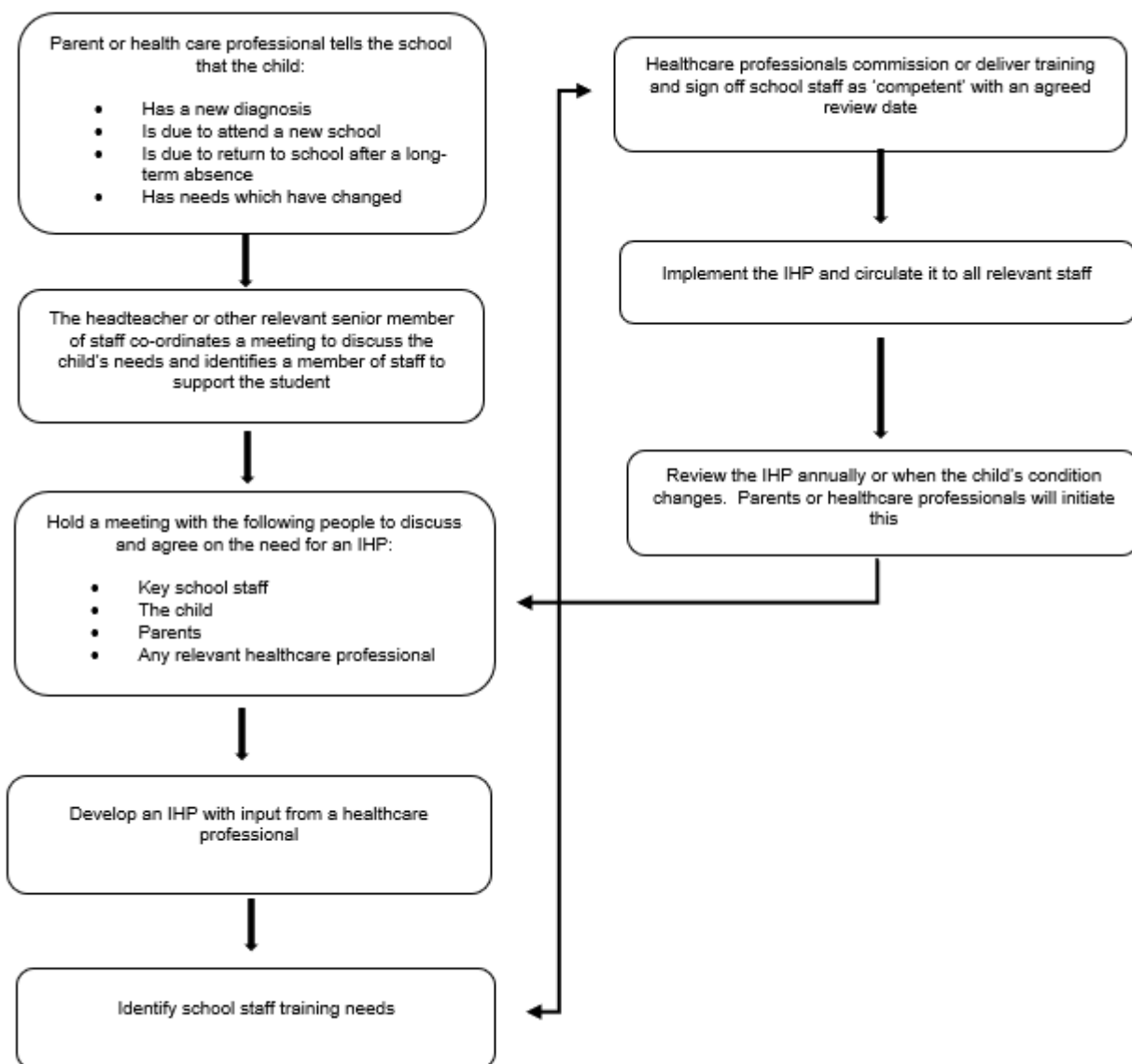
The school will consider what reasonable adjustments need to be made to enable these students to participate fully and safely on school trips, visits and sporting activities.

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

5. Being notified that a child has a medical condition

When the school is notified that a student has a medical condition, the process outlined below will be followed to decide whether the student requires an IHP.

The school will make every effort to ensure that arrangements are put into place within 2 weeks, or by the beginning of the relevant term for students who are new to our school.



6. Individual healthcare plans

The headteacher has overall responsibility for the development of IHPs for students with medical conditions. This has been delegated to the Student Support Team (Physical, Sensory and Medical Needs).

Plans will be reviewed at least annually or earlier if there is evidence that the student's needs have changed.

Plans will be developed with the student's best interests in mind and will set out:

- What needs to be done
- When
- By whom

Not all students with a medical condition will require an IHP. It will be agreed with a healthcare professional and the parents when an IHP would be inappropriate or disproportionate. This will be based on evidence. If there is not a consensus, the headteacher will make the final decision.

Plans will be drawn up in partnership with the school, parents and a relevant healthcare professional, such as the school nurse, specialist or pediatrician, who can best advise on the student's specific needs. The student will be involved wherever appropriate.

IHPs will be linked to, or part of an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan.

The level of detail in the plan will depend on the complexity of the child's condition and how much support is needed. The Board of Governors, the Assistant Headteacher, and the Student Support Team, will consider the following when deciding what information to record on IHPs:

- The medical condition, its triggers, signs, symptoms and treatments
- The student's resulting needs, including medication (dose, side effects and storage) and other treatments, time, facilities, equipment, testing, access to food and drink where this is used to manage their condition, dietary requirements and environmental issues, e.g. crowded corridors, travel time between lessons
- Specific support for the student's educational, social and emotional needs. For example, how absences will be managed, requirements for extra time to complete exams, use of rest periods or additional support in catching up with lessons, counselling sessions
- The level of support needed, including in emergencies. If a student is self-managing their medication, this will be clearly stated with appropriate arrangements for monitoring
- Who will provide this support, their training needs, expectations of their role and confirmation of proficiency to provide support for the student's medical condition from a healthcare professional, and cover arrangements for when they are unavailable
- Who in the school needs to be aware of the student's condition and the support required
- Arrangements for written permission from parents and the headteacher for medication to be administered by a member of staff, or self-administered by the student during school hours
- Separate arrangements or procedures required for school trips or other school activities outside of the normal school timetable that will ensure the student can participate, e.g. risk assessments
- Where confidentiality issues are raised by the parent/student, the designated individuals to be entrusted with information about the student's condition
- What to do in an emergency, including who to contact, and contingency arrangements

7. Managing medicines

Prescription and non-prescription medicines will only be administered at school:

- When it would be detrimental to the student's health or school attendance not to do so **and**
- Where we have parents' written consent

Students under 16 will not be given medicine containing aspirin unless prescribed by a doctor.

Anyone giving a student any medication (for example, for pain relief) will first check maximum dosages and when the previous dosage was taken. Parents will always be informed.

The school will only accept prescribed medicines that are:

- In-date
- Labelled
- Provided in the original container, as dispensed by the pharmacist, and include instructions for administration, dosage and storage

The school will accept insulin that is inside an insulin pen or pump rather than its original container, but it must be in date.

All medicines will be stored safely. Students will be informed about where their medicines are at all times and be able to access them immediately. Medicines and devices such as asthma inhalers, blood glucose testing meters and adrenaline pens will always be readily available to students through First Aid support.

Medicines will be returned to parents to arrange for safe disposal when no longer required. Parents should bring all medicines directly into school. Medicines must never be given to a child to bring into school, or to take home.

7.1 Controlled drugs

Controlled drugs are prescription medicines that are controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001 and subsequent amendments, such as morphine or methadone.

All controlled drugs are kept in a secure cupboard in the school's First Aid Room and only named staffs have access.

Controlled drugs will be easily accessible in an emergency and a record of any doses used and the amount held will be kept.

7.2 Students managing their own needs

Students who are competent will be encouraged to take responsibility for managing their own medicines and procedures. This will be discussed with parents and it will be reflected in their IHPs.

Students will be allowed to carry their own medicines and relevant devices wherever possible. Staff will not force a student to take a medicine or carry out a necessary procedure if they refuse, but will follow the procedure agreed in the IHP and inform parents so that an alternative option can be considered, if necessary.

7.3 Asthma

Marshfields School recognizes Asthma as a serious but controllable condition; it encourages students with Asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life. The school understands and recognizes the need for immediate access to inhalers. The Lead for First Aid will commence a school Asthma Care plan for students with Asthma in partnership with parents and maintain an Asthma register. The school will ensure training will be given to staff to ensure they are aware of Asthma and are able to manage an Asthma attack – this will include giving emergency treatment. Parents will be informed of Asthma attacks and any treatment given. The school will not assume responsibility for the routine treatment of Asthma (preventative therapy) which remains the prerogative of the parent in conjunction with their GP.

On entry to the school students with Asthma should be identified, the Asthma consent form will be completed and Asthma Care Plan will be started. An Asthma register will be maintained and accessible to staff and a copy kept with the school's emergency inhalers. Parents will give written consent that they give permission for the school's emergency inhalers to be used.

A record of use of the student's inhaler/schools emergency inhaler will be logged and a notification letter will be given to parents/carer and also a copy kept on the student's record.

If the same student has to use the inhaler more than once a term they should be brought to the attention of the school nurse.

7.4 Unacceptable practice

School staff should use their discretion and judge each case individually with reference to the student's IHP, but it is generally not acceptable to:

- Prevent students from easily accessing their inhalers and medication, and administering their medication when and where necessary
- Assume that every student with the same condition requires the same treatment
- Ignore the views of the student or their parents
- Ignore medical evidence or opinion (although this may be challenged)
- Send children with medical conditions home frequently for reasons associated with their medical condition or prevent them from staying for normal school activities, including lunch, unless this is specified in their IHPs
- If the student becomes ill, send them to the school office or medical room unaccompanied or with someone unsuitable
- Penalise students for their attendance record if their absences are related to their medical condition, e.g. hospital appointments
- Prevent students 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 student, including with toileting issues. No parent should have to give up working because the school is failing to support their child's medical needs
- Prevent students from participating, or create unnecessary barriers to students participating in any aspect of school life, including school trips, e.g. by requiring parents to accompany their child
- Administer, or ask students to administer, medicine in school toilets

8. Emergency procedures

Staff will follow the school's normal emergency procedures (for example, calling 999). All students' IHPs will clearly set out what constitutes an emergency and will explain what to do.

If a student needs to be taken to hospital, staff will stay with the student until the parent arrives, or accompany the student to hospital by ambulance.

9. Training

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

The training will be identified during the development or review of IHPs. Staff who provide support to students 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 headteacher. Training will be kept up to date.

Training will:

- Be sufficient to ensure that staff are competent and have confidence in their ability to support the students
- Fulfil the requirements in the IHPs
- Help staff to have an understanding of the specific medical conditions they are being asked to deal with, their implications and preventative measures
- No staff member may administer prescription medicines or undertake any healthcare procedures without undergoing training specific to the responsibility, including administering.
- No staff member may administer drugs by injection unless they have received training in this responsibly.

Healthcare professionals will provide confirmation of the proficiency of staff in a medical procedure, or in providing medication.

All staff will receive training so that they are aware of this policy and understand their role in implementing it, for example, with preventative and emergency measures so they can recognise and act quickly when a problem occurs. This will be provided for new staff during their induction.

10. Record keeping

The Board of Governors will ensure that written records are kept of all medicine administered to students. Parents will be informed if their student has been unwell at school.

IHPs are kept in a readily accessible place which all staff are aware of.

A central record will be kept of training undertaken and a list of staff qualified to undertake responsibilities under this policy. The Business Manager will keep the record of training as appropriate. The names of the school's First Aiders will be displayed in all work areas.

11. Liability and indemnity

The Board of Governors will ensure that the appropriate level of insurance is in place and appropriately reflects the school's level of risk.

The details of the school's insurance policy can be found with our Business Manager which contains details of our insurance arrangements which cover staff providing support to students with medical conditions.

We will ensure that we are a member of the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA).

12. Complaints

Parents with a complaint about their child's medical condition should discuss these directly with the headteacher in the first instance. If the headteacher cannot resolve the matter, they will direct parents to the school's complaints procedure.

13. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed and approved by the Board of Governors every year.

14. Equality Statement

Marshfields School is mindful of its Equality Duties; respecting religious belief and ensuring that support is provided for those with disability needs that might be affected by this policy. Where there are language or communication issues, and to avoid any misunderstanding, the parents/carers and Headteacher will agree an appropriate course of action. The Headteacher will engage interpreters or adapt materials as required to ensure that full understanding of a student's medical needs are determined accurately.

With regard to off-site visits and residential opportunities, Marshfields will ensure that reasonable adjustments enabling students to be included are appropriate and made in consultation with parents/carers.

15. Links to other policies

This policy has links to the following policies:

- Accessibility Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Special Educational Needs Information Report and Policy

Adopted date:	September 2020
Signature of Headteacher:	
Signature of Governing body:	
Next Review Date:	July 2021