



Medical Needs Policy

Nominated Lead Member of Staff: Liz Healey (SENDCo)

Status and Review Cycle: Statutory (Annual Review)

Last Review Date: October 2021

Next Review Date: October 2022

CONTENTS

- 1. Definition of medical need**
- 2. Statement of intent**
- 3. Training of staff**
- 4. The role of the student**
- 5. Individual Healthcare Plans (IHCPs)**
- 6. Medicines**
- 7. Emergencies**
- 8. COVID-19**
- 9. Avoiding unacceptable practice**
- 10. Insurance/Risk Protection Arrangement**
- 11. Educational Visits**
- 12. Sharing Information**
- 13. Epi-pens**
- 14. Complaints**

1. Definition of medical need

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

1.1. Short-term, affecting their participation in school activities for which they are on a course of medication.

1.2. Long-term, potentially limiting their access to education and requiring extra care and support.

1.3. "Medication" is defined as any prescribed or over the counter medicine.

1.4. "Prescription medication" is defined as any drug or device prescribed by a doctor.

1.5. A "staff member" is defined as any member of staff employed at Tytherington School.

2. Statement of Intent

Tytherington School wishes to ensure that students with medical conditions receive appropriate care and support at school. The aim is to ensure that all children with medical conditions, in terms of both physical and mental health, are properly supported so that they can play a full and active role in school life, remain healthy and achieve their academic potential. This policy has been developed in line with the Department for Education's guidance updated in Aug 2017 – "Supporting pupils with medical conditions at school". Ofsted places clear emphasis on meeting the needs of students with SEND and that includes children with medical conditions.

3. Training of staff

3.1. Teachers and support staff will receive training on students with specific medical conditions and annual refresher training is provided on various illnesses such as asthma and diabetes. Annual refresher training on how to use a defibrillator and how to administer an Epi-Pen is also provided.

3.2. Teachers and support staff who undertake responsibilities under this policy will receive the necessary training externally from the NHS Trust Nurse Team.

3.3. The clinical lead for this training is the SENDCo.

3.4. No staff member may administer prescription medicines or undertake any healthcare procedures without undergoing training specific to the responsibility, including administering.

3.5. No staff member may administer drugs by injection unless they have received training in this responsibility.

3.6. A record of training undertaken by staff and a list of staff members qualified to undertake responsibilities under this policy, is maintained by Tytherington School.

4. The role of the student

4.1. Students who are competent will be encouraged to take responsibility for managing their own medicines and procedures.

4.2. Where possible, students will be allowed to carry their own medicines and devices. Where this is not possible, their medicines will be located in an easily accessible location.

4.3. If students refuse to take medication or to carry out a necessary procedure, parents will be informed so that alternative options can be explored.

4.4. Where appropriate, students will be encouraged to take their own medication under the supervision of a member of staff.

5. Individual Healthcare Plans (IHCPs)

5.1. Where necessary, an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHCP) will be developed in collaboration with the student, parents/carers, Headteacher, Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENDCo) and medical professionals.

5.2. IHCPs will be easily accessible whilst preserving confidentiality.

5.3. IHCPs will be reviewed at least annually or when a student's medical circumstances change, whichever is sooner.

5.4. Where a student has an Education, Health and Care plan, the IHCP will be linked to it or become part of it.

5.5. Where a student is returning from a period of hospital education or alternative provision or home tuition, we will work with the LA and education provider to ensure that the IHCP identifies the support the student needs to reintegrate.

6. Medicines

6.1. Where possible, it is preferable for medicines to be prescribed in frequencies that allow the student to take them outside of school hours.

6.2. If this is not possible, prior to staff members administering any medication, the parents/carers of the student must complete and sign a 'parental agreement for a school to administer medicine' form.

6.3. No student will be given any prescription or non-prescription medicines without written parental consent except in exceptional circumstances.

6.4. Where a student is prescribed medication without their parents'/carers' knowledge, every effort will be made to encourage the student to involve their parents while respecting their right to confidentiality.

6.5. No student under 16 years of age will be given medication containing aspirin without a doctor's prescription.

6.6. Medicines MUST be in date, labelled, and provided in the original container (except in the case of insulin which may come in a pen or pump) with dosage instructions. Medicines which do not meet these criteria will not be administered.

6.7. A maximum of four weeks supply of the medication may be provided to the school at one time.

6.8. Controlled drugs may only be taken on school premises by the individual to whom they have been prescribed. Passing such drugs to others is an offence which will be dealt with under our Drug and Alcohol Policy.

6.9. Medications will be stored in the Pastoral Office.

6.10. Any medications left over at the end of the course will be returned to the student's parents.

6.11. Written records will be kept of any medication administered to students.

6.12. Students will never be prevented from accessing their medication.

6.13. Tytherington School cannot be held responsible for side effects that occur when medication is taken correctly.

7. Emergencies

7.1. Medical emergencies will be dealt with under the school's emergency procedures.

7.2. Where an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHCP) is in place, it should detail:

- What constitutes an emergency.
- What to do in an emergency.

7.3. Students will be informed in general terms of what to do in an emergency such as telling a member of staff.

7.4. If a student needs to be taken to hospital, a member of staff will remain with the student until their parents arrive.

8. COVID-19

8.1. Illness

If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough, a high temperature or loss of taste/smell (anosmia) in an education or childcare setting, they will be sent home and advised to follow the COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance. If a young person is awaiting collection, they will be isolated in a separate room behind a closed door, with an open

window for ventilation. The young person in this situation will also be provided with a face covering and asked to wear it. A member of staff will periodically check on their well-being, whilst ensuring their own safety, whilst parents or carers travel to school.

8.2. Self-isolation and testing

When a young person develops symptoms compatible with COVID-19, they will be sent home and advised to get tested immediately. To access testing, parents/carers will be advised to use the 111 online COVID-19/Coronavirus service. Evidence of the outcome of this test will be required by Tytherington School. Where the young person tests negative, they can return to school. Tytherington School will work with Public Health England's local health protection teams and seek advice on the most appropriate action to take.

8.3. Mental Health

Regular welfare checks will take place with all parents or carers in order to ensure our students and their families are supported during these challenging times. Regular communication will take place with students/families to inform them of mental health services available through school locally and nationally.

8.4. First Aid

Qualified First Aiders in school continue to have a duty of care to ALL of our students. Additional safety measures will be in place for all first aiders to include:

Clinical-grade PPE provided to all qualified first aiders including a face mask, apron, gloves and visor. All first aiders are advised to follow the latest guidance on delivering CPR to a person suspected of having Covid-19; chest compressions only are to be initiated.

8.5. Minimising risk

Tytherington School has put in place a number of safety measures to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and minimise the risk to all pupils including those with medical conditions, for example:

- Informing staff and students of the safety measures in place and our modified and enhanced behaviour expectations.
- Increased hand sanitising stations.

In addition to the above actions which reflect Government guidance, the School has also implemented the following:

- A one-way system in place for movement around the building.
- Enhanced cleaning routines, including on-going cleansing during the day.
- Safety precautions will be reviewed in line with Government guidance as it is updated.

9. Avoiding unacceptable practice

9.1. Tytherington School understands that the following behaviour is unacceptable:

- Assuming that students with the same condition require the same treatment.
- Ignoring the views of the student and/or their parents.
- Ignoring medical evidence or opinion.
- Sending students home frequently or preventing them from taking part in activities at school.
- Sending the student to the pastoral office alone if they become ill.
- Penalising students with medical conditions for their attendance record where the absences relate to their condition.
- Making parents feel obliged or forcing parents to attend school to administer medication or provide medical support, including toilet issues.
- Creating barriers to students participating in school life, including school trips.
- Refusing to allow students to eat, drink or use the toilet when they need to in order to manage their condition.

10. Insurance/Risk Protection Arrangement

10.1. Members of staff who undertake responsibilities within this policy are covered by the school's insurance/Risk Protection Arrangement.

10.2. Full written insurance policy/Risk Protection Arrangement documents are available to be viewed by members of staff who are providing support to students with medical conditions. Those who wish to see the documents should contact the Business Manager.

11. Educational Visits

- Essential medicines will be administered on Educational Visits, subject to the conditions above. A risk assessment may be needed before the visit takes place.
- Staff supervising the visit will be responsible for safe storage and administration of the medicine during the visit.
- Paracetamol can be administered on educational visits with parental/carer consent. Before administering any medicine, staff must check that the medicine belongs to the child, must check that the dosage they are giving is correct, and that written permission has been given.
- Any child refusing to take medicine in school will not be made to do so, and parents/carers will be informed about the dose being missed. All doses administered should be recorded.
- All medicines will be stored safely. Medicines needing refrigeration will be stored in the Student Services designated medical fridge. All medicines must be clearly labelled.
- Staff will record any doses of medicines given. Students self-administering asthma inhalers do not need to be recorded.
- Inhalers are kept in the child's bag and it is the student's responsibility to have the inhaler with them at all times. All students with an inhaler must take them on educational visits, however short in duration.

12. Sharing Information

- Students with serious medical conditions will have their photo and brief description of condition, along with any other necessary information shared on their Health Profiles and also on the Additional Needs Register.
- Students with medical conditions which may require emergency attention, e.g. epilepsy, diabetes, will have their names and an Individual Healthcare Plan in student services and all adults dealing with the child will have their attention drawn to this information.
- In an emergency /or in a medical emergency, Staff First Aiders have been appropriately trained to administer emergency first aid if necessary.

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'/carers' names and any known medical conditions.
- Students 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/carers must always be called in a medical emergency and would be expected to accompany their child to hospital should the need arise. However, the school staff can take students to hospital without a parent/carer present if required.

13. Epi-pen

- Any member of staff can administer an epi-pen in an emergency. However, only first aid trained staff who have attended the annual epi-pen training are covered under the school's insurance.
- 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 for a child who may require an epi-pen.
- Cetrizine may be given if slight tingling of the lips occurs following ingestion of possible irritants for nut allergy sufferers. This is a liquid medicine stored with the epi-pen. If symptoms are more severe, the epi-pen should be given immediately.
- An ambulance must be called immediately.
- Parents/carers should be contacted after this call has been made.

14. Complaints

14.1. Our complaints procedure is available on the school's website. In the first instance, please contact the Headteacher.