



**Acklam Whin Primary School**

**Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy**

Policy Updated: June 2025

Approved by Governors: June 2025

To be reviewed: June 2026

**Contents:**

# Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

## Statement of intent

1. Legal framework
2. Roles and responsibilities
3. Admissions
4. Notification procedure
5. Staff training and support
6. Self-management
7. Individual healthcare plans (IHP)
8. Managing medicines
9. Allergens, anaphylaxis and adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)
10. Defibrillators
11. Record keeping
12. Emergency procedures
13. Day trips, residential visits and sporting activities
14. Unacceptable practice
15. Liability and indemnity
16. Complaints

## Appendices

- A. Individual Healthcare Plan Implementation Procedure
- B. Individual Healthcare Plan
- C. Parental Agreement for the School to Administer Medicine
- D. Record of Medicine Administered to an Individual Pupil

## Statement of intent

The governing body of Acklam Whin 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

## Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

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 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.

### 1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Children and Families Act 2014
- Education Act 2002
- Education Act 1996 (as amended)
- Children Act 1989
- National Health Service Act 2006 (as amended)
- Equality Act 2010
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- Misuse of Drugs Act 1971
- Medicines Act 1968
- The School Premises (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014 (as amended)
- The Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017
- The Food Information (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2019 (Natasha's Law)
- DfE (2015) 'Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0-25 years'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2017) 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions'
- DfE (2022) 'First aid in schools, early years and further education'
- Department of Health (2017) 'Guidance on the use of adrenaline auto-injectors in schools'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Administering Medication Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Allergen and Anaphylaxis Policy
- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Admissions Policy

### 2. Roles and responsibilities

## Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

The governing body is responsible for:

- Fulfilling its statutory duties under legislation.
- Ensuring that arrangements are in place to support pupils with medical conditions.
- Ensuring that pupils with medical conditions can access and enjoy the same opportunities as any other pupil at the school.
- Working with the LA, health professionals, commissioners and support services to ensure that pupils with medical conditions receive a full education.
- Ensuring that, following long-term or frequent absence, pupils with medical conditions are reintegrated effectively.
- Ensuring that the focus is on the needs of each pupil and what support is required to support their individual needs.
- Instilling confidence in parents and pupils in the school's ability to provide effective support.
- Ensuring that all members of staff are properly trained to provide the necessary support and are able to access information and other teaching support materials as needed.
- Ensuring that no prospective pupils are denied admission to the school because arrangements for their medical conditions have not been made.
- Ensuring that pupils' health is not put at unnecessary risk. As a result, the body holds the right to not accept a pupil into school at times where it would be detrimental to the health of that pupil or others to do so, such as where the child has an infectious disease.
- Ensuring that policies, plans, procedures and systems are properly and effectively implemented.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- The overall implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring that this policy is effectively implemented with stakeholders.
- Ensuring that all staff are aware of this policy and understand their role in its implementation.
- Ensuring that a sufficient number of staff are trained.
- Considering recruitment needs for the specific purpose of ensuring pupils with medical conditions are properly supported.
- Having overall responsibility for the development of IHPs.
- Ensuring that staff are appropriately insured and aware of the insurance arrangements.
- Contacting the school nurse where a pupil with a medical condition requires support that has not yet been identified.

Parents are responsible for:

- Notifying the school if their child has a medical condition.
- Providing the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs.
- Being involved in the development and review of their child's IHP.
- Carrying out any agreed actions contained in the IHP.
- Ensuring that they, or another nominated adult, are contactable at all times.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Being fully involved in discussions about their medical support needs, where applicable.
- Contributing to the development of their IHP, if they have one, where applicable.
- Being sensitive to the needs of pupils with medical conditions.

School staff are responsible for:

## Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

- Providing support to pupils with medical conditions, where requested, including the administering of medicines, but are not required to do so.
- Receiving sufficient training and achieve the required level of competency before taking responsibility for supporting pupils with medical conditions.
- Knowing what to do and responding accordingly when they become aware that a pupil with a medical condition needs help.

The school nurse is responsible for:

- Notifying the school at the earliest opportunity when a pupil has been identified as having a medical condition which requires support in school.
- Supporting staff to implement IHPs and providing advice and training.
- Liaising with lead clinicians locally on appropriate support for pupils with medical conditions.

Clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) are responsible for:

- Ensuring that commissioning is responsive to pupils' needs, and that health services are able to cooperate with schools supporting pupils with medical conditions.
- Making joint commissioning arrangements for EHC provision for pupils with SEND.
- Being responsive to LAs and schools looking to improve links between health services and schools.
- Providing clinical support for pupils who have long-term conditions and disabilities.
- Ensuring that commissioning arrangements provide the necessary ongoing support essential to ensuring the safety of vulnerable pupils.

Other healthcare professionals, including GPs and paediatricians, are responsible for:

- Notifying the school nurse when a child has been identified as having a medical condition that will require support at school.
- Providing advice on developing IHPs.
- Providing support in the school for children with particular conditions, e.g. asthma, diabetes and epilepsy, where required.

Providers of health services are responsible for cooperating with the school, including ensuring communication takes place, liaising with the school nurse and other healthcare professionals, and participating in local outreach training.

The LA is responsible for:

- Commissioning school nurses for local schools.
- Promoting cooperation between relevant partners.
- Making joint commissioning arrangements for EHC provision for pupils with SEND.
- Providing support, advice, guidance, and suitable training for school staff, ensuring that IHPs can be effectively delivered.
- Working with the school to ensure that pupils with medical conditions can attend school full-time.

Where a pupil is away from school for 15 days or more (whether consecutively or across a school year), the LA has a duty to make alternative arrangements, as the pupil is unlikely to receive a suitable education in a mainstream school.

### 3. Admissions

Admissions will be managed in line with the school's Admissions Policy.

No child will be denied admission to the school or prevented from taking up a school place because arrangements for their medical condition have not been made; a child may only be refused admission if it would be detrimental to the health of the child to admit them into the school setting.

## Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

The school will not ask, or use any supplementary forms that ask, for details about a child's medical condition during the admission process.

### 4. Notification procedure

When the school is notified that a pupil has a medical condition that requires support in school, the school nurse will inform the headteacher. Following this, the school will arrange a meeting with parents, healthcare professionals and the pupil, where appropriate, with a view to discussing the necessity of an IHP.

The school will not wait for a formal diagnosis before providing support to pupils. Where a pupil's medical condition is unclear, or where there is a difference of opinion concerning what support is required, a judgement will be made by the headteacher based on all available evidence (including medical evidence and consultation with parents).

For a pupil starting at the school in a September uptake, arrangements will be put in place and informed by their previous institution. Where a pupil joins the school mid-term or a new diagnosis is received, arrangements will be put in place.

### 5. Staff training and support

Any staff member providing support to a pupil with medical conditions will receive suitable training. Staff will not undertake healthcare procedures or administer medication without appropriate training.

A first-aid certificate will not constitute appropriate training for supporting pupils with medical conditions.

Through training, staff will have the requisite competency and confidence to support pupils with medical conditions and fulfil the requirements set out in IHPs. Staff will understand the medical conditions they are asked to support, their implications, and any preventative measures that must be taken.

The school nurse will identify suitable training opportunities that ensure all medical conditions affecting pupils in the school are fully understood, and that staff can recognise difficulties and act quickly in emergency situations.

The parents of pupils with medical conditions will be consulted for specific advice and their views are sought where necessary, but they will not be used as a sole trainer.

### 6. Self-management

Following discussion with parents, pupils who are competent to manage their own health needs and medicines will be encouraged to take responsibility for self-managing their medicines and procedures, under adult supervision. This will be reflected in their IHP.

Where possible, pupils will be allowed to carry their own medicines and relevant devices. Where it is not possible for pupils to carry their own medicines or devices, they will be held in suitable locations that can be accessed quickly and easily. If a pupil refuses to take medicine or carry out a necessary procedure, staff will not force them to do so. Instead, the procedure agreed in the pupil's IHP will be followed. Following such an event, parents will be informed so that alternative options can be considered.

### 7. Individual healthcare plans

The school, healthcare professionals and parents agree, based on evidence, whether an IHP will be required for a pupil, or whether it would be inappropriate or disproportionate to their level of need. If no consensus can be reached, the headteacher will make the final decision.

The school, parents and a relevant healthcare professional will work in partnership to create and review IHPs. Where appropriate, the pupil will also be involved in the process.

IHPs will include the following information:

- The medical condition, along with its triggers, symptoms, signs and treatments

## Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

- The pupil's needs, including medication (dosages, side effects and storage), other treatments, facilities, equipment, access to food and drink (where this is used to manage a condition), dietary requirements, and environmental issues
- The support needed for the pupil's educational, social and emotional needs
- The level of support needed, including in emergencies
- Whether a child can self-manage their medication
- Who will provide the necessary support, including details of the expectations of the role and the training needs required, as well as who will confirm the supporting staff member's proficiency to carry out the role effectively
- Who needs to be made aware of the pupil's condition and the support required
- Arrangements for obtaining written permission from parents and the headteacher for medicine to be administered by school staff or self-administered by the pupil
- Separate arrangements or procedures required during school trips and activities
- What to do in an emergency, including contact details and contingency arrangements

Where a pupil has an emergency healthcare plan prepared by their lead clinician, this will be used to inform the IHP.

IHPs will be easily accessible to those who need to refer to them, but confidentiality will be preserved. IHPs will be reviewed on at least an annual basis, or when a child's medical circumstances change, whichever is sooner.

Where a pupil has an EHC plan, the IHP will be linked to it or become part of it. Where a child has SEND but does not have a statement or EHC plan, their SEND will be mentioned in their IHP.

### 8. Managing medicines

Medicines will only be administered at school when it would be detrimental to a pupil's health or school attendance not to do so.

Pupils will not be given prescription or non-prescription medicines without consent from their parent or carer. Consent will be recorded on the appropriate form.

Non-prescription medicines may be administered in the following situations:

- When it would be detrimental to the pupil's health not to do so
- When instructed by a medical professional

No pupil will be given medicine containing aspirin unless prescribed by a doctor. Pain relief medicines will not be administered without first checking when the previous dose was taken and the maximum dosage allowed.

The school will only accept medicines that are in-date, labelled, in their original container, and contain instructions for administration, dosage and storage. The only exception to this is insulin, which must still be in-date, but is available in an insulin pen or pump, rather than its original container.

All medicines will be stored safely. When medicines are no longer required, they will be returned to parents for safe disposal.

Sharps boxes will be used for the disposal of needles and other sharps.

Controlled drugs will be stored in locked storage and only named staff members will have access. A record will be kept of the amount of controlled drugs held and any doses administered. Staff may administer a controlled drug to a pupil for whom it has been prescribed, in accordance with the prescriber's instructions.

The school will hold asthma inhalers for emergency use. The inhalers will be stored in the relevant child's classroom and their use will be recorded.

Records will be kept of all medicines administered to individual pupils, stating what, how and how much medicine was administered, when, and by whom. A record of side effects presented will also be held.

## **9. Allergens, anaphylaxis and adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)**

The school's Allergen and Anaphylaxis Policy is implemented consistently to ensure the safety of those with allergies.

Parents are required to provide the school with up-to-date information relating to their children's allergies, as well as the necessary action to be taken in the event of an allergic reaction, such as any medication required.

Staff members receive appropriate training and support relevant to their level of responsibility, in order to assist pupils with managing their allergies.

The administration of adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) and the treatment of anaphylaxis will be carried out in accordance with the school's Allergen and Anaphylaxis Policy. Where a pupil has been prescribed an AAI, this will be written into their IHP.

Prescribed AAI devices will be stored in a suitably safe and central location.

Staff members will be trained on how to administer an AAI, and the sequence of events to follow when doing so.

Where a pupil is, or appears to be, having a severe allergic reaction, the emergency services will be contacted even if an AAI device has already been administered.

In the event that an AAI is used, the pupil's parents will be notified that an AAI has been administered. Where any AAIs are used, the following information will be recorded on the Adrenaline Auto-Injector (AAI) Record:

- Where and when the reaction took place
- How much medication was given and by whom

In the event of a school trip, for pupils at risk of anaphylaxis their own AAI will be taken.

Further information relating to the school's policies and procedures addressing allergens and anaphylaxis can be found in the Allergen and Anaphylaxis Policy.

## **10. Defibrillators**

The school has an automated external defibrillator (AED). The AED is stored outside the staff room in an unlocked cabinet. See First Aid Policy.

## **11. Record keeping**

Written records will be kept of all medicines administered to pupils. Proper record keeping will protect both staff and pupils, and provide evidence that agreed procedures have been followed. Appropriate forms for record keeping can be found in [Appendix D](#) of this policy.

## **12. Emergency procedures**

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

Where an IHP is in place, it should detail:

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

Pupils will be informed in general terms of what to do in an emergency, e.g. telling a teacher.

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

## **13. Day trips, residential visits and sporting activities**

Pupils with medical conditions will be supported to participate in school trips, sporting activities and residential visits.

Prior to an activity taking place, the school will conduct a risk assessment to identify what reasonable adjustments should be taken to enable pupils with medical conditions to participate. In addition to a risk assessment, advice will

## Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

be sought from pupils, parents and relevant medical professionals. The school will arrange for adjustments to be made for all pupils to participate, except where evidence from a clinician, e.g. a GP, indicates that this is not possible.

### 14. Unacceptable practice

The school will not:

- Assume that pupils with the same condition require the same treatment.
- Ignore the views of the pupil or their parents.
- Ignore medical evidence or opinion.
- Send pupils home frequently for reasons associated with their medical condition, or prevent them from taking part in activities at school, including lunch times, unless this is specified in their IHP.
- Penalise pupils with medical conditions for their attendance record, where the absences relate to their condition.
- Make parents feel obliged or forced to visit the school to administer medication or provide medical support, including for toilet issues. The school will ensure that no parent is made to feel that they have to give up working because the school is unable to support their child's needs.
- Create barriers to pupils participating in school life, including school trips.
- Refuse to allow pupils to eat, drink or use the toilet when they need to in order to manage their condition.

### 15. Liability and indemnity

The governing body will ensure that appropriate insurance is in place to cover staff providing support to pupils with medical conditions.

In the event of a claim alleging negligence by a member of staff, civil actions are most likely to be brought against the school, not the individual.

### 16. Complaints

Parents or pupils wishing to make a complaint concerning the support provided to pupils with medical conditions are required to speak to the school in the first instance. If they are not satisfied with the school's response, they may make a formal complaint via the school's complaints procedures, as outlined in the Complaints Procedures Policy. If the issue remains unresolved, the complainant has the right to make a formal complaint to the DfE.

## Appendix A: Individual Healthcare Plan Implementation Procedure



## Appendix B: Individual Healthcare Plan

## Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

Pupil's name:

Class:

Date of birth:

Pupil's address:

Medical diagnosis or condition:

Date:

Review date:

### **Family contact information**

Name:

Relationship to pupil:

Phone number (work):

(home):

(mobile):

Name:

Relationship to pupil:

Phone number (work):

(home):

(mobile):

### **Clinic/hospital contact**

Name:

Phone number:

### **Child's GP**

Name:

Phone number:

## Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

Who is responsible for providing support in school?

Pupil's medical needs and details of symptoms, signs, triggers, treatments, facilities, equipment or devices, environmental issues, etc.:

Name of medication, dose, method of administration, when it should be taken, side effects, contra-indications, administered by staff member/self-administered with/without supervision:

Daily care requirements:

Specific support for the pupil's educational, social and emotional needs:

Other information: (Are they on the SEND register/ have an EHCP?)

Describe what constitutes an emergency, and the action to take if this occurs:

Plan developed with:

## Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

Staff training needed or undertaken – who, what, when:

Parent/ carer signature.....

Date.....



## Appendix C: Parental Agreement for the School to Administer Medicine

The school will not give your child medicine unless you complete and sign this form.

### Administration of medication form

Date for review to be initiated by:

Name of child:

Date of birth:

Group/class/form:

Medical condition or illness:

Date for review to be initiated by:
Name of child:
Date of birth:
Group/class/form:
Medical condition or illness:

### Medicine

Name and/or type of medicine

*(as described on the container):*

Expiry date:

Dosage and method:

Timing:

Special precautions and/or other instructions:

Any side effects that the school needs to know about:

Self-administration – Yes/No:

Procedures to take in an emergency:

Name and/or type of medicine
<i>(as described on the container):</i>
Expiry date:
Dosage and method:
Timing:
Special precautions and/or other instructions:
Any side effects that the school needs to know about:
Self-administration – Yes/No:
Procedures to take in an emergency:

**NB: Medicines must be in the original container as dispensed by the pharmacy – the only exception to this is insulin, which may be available in an insulin pen or pump rather than its original container.**

### Contact details

Name:

Daytime telephone number:

Relationship to child:

Address:

Name:
Daytime telephone number:
Relationship to child:
Address:

The above information is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate at the time of writing and I give consent for school staff to administer medicine in accordance with the relevant policies. I will inform the school immediately, in writing, if there is any change in dosage or frequency of the medication, or if the medicine is stopped.

Signature..... Date.....

## Appendix D: Record of Medicine Administered to an Individual Pupil

Name of pupil:	
Class:	
Date medicine provided by parents:	
Quantity received:	
Name and strength of medicine:	
Expiry date:	
Dose and frequency of medicine:	
Quantity returned:	

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date:		
Time given:		
Dose given:		
Name of member of staff:		
Staff initials:		

Date:		
Time given:		
Dose given:		
Name of member of staff:		
Staff initials:		

Date:		
Time given:		
Dose given:		
Name of member of staff:		
Staff initials:		

Date:		
Time given:		
Dose given:		
Name of member of staff:		
Staff initials:		

## Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

Date:

Time given:

Dose given:

Name of member of staff:

Staff initials:


Date:

Time given:

Dose given:

Name of member of staff:

Staff initials:


Date:

Time given:

Dose given:

Name of member of staff:

Staff initials:


Date:

Time given:

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Name of member of staff:

Staff initials:


Date:

Time given:

Dose given:

Name of member of staff:

Staff initials:


Date:

Time given:

Dose given:

Name of member of staff:

Staff initials:
