

**Discovery Primary School**  
**Policy for Supporting Pupils with Medical conditions**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Administering Medicines policy and, if applicable, the SEN policy.

This policy is written in regard to 'section 100' of the Children and Families Act 2014 which places a duty on governing bodies to make arrangements for supporting pupils at their school 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.**

### **Definition**

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

(a) Short-term affecting their participation in school activities which they are on a course of medication.

(b) Long-term potentially limiting their access to education and requiring extra care and support (deemed **special medical needs**). The SENCO will be responsible for the development of health care plans relating to pupils with medical conditions.

### **Aims**

- (a) To ensure pupils at school with medical conditions, in terms of both physical and mental health, are properly supported so they can play a full and active role in school life, remain healthy and achieve their academic potential.
- (b) To ensure the needs of children with medical conditions are effectively supported in consultation with health and social care professionals, their parents and the pupils themselves.

### **Procedures**

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.

The named person responsible for Supporting Children with Medical Conditions will ensure that;

- sufficient staff are suitably trained
- all relevant staff are made aware of a child's condition
- cover arrangements in case of staff absence/turnover is always available
- supply teachers are briefed
- risk assessments for visits and activities out of the normal timetable are carried out
- individual healthcare plans are monitored, if implemented (at least annually)
- transitional arrangements between schools are carried out
- if a child's needs change, the above measures are adjusted accordingly

Any pupil with a medical condition requiring medication or support in school should have an individual healthcare plan which details the support that child needs. If the parents, healthcare professional and school agree that a healthcare plan is inappropriate or disproportionate, a record of the child's medical condition and any implications for the child will be kept in the school's medical record and the child's individual record.

### **Individual Healthcare Plans**

The following information should be considered when writing an individual healthcare plan:

- the medical condition, its triggers, signs, symptoms and treatments
- the pupil's resulting needs, including medication and other treatments, times, facilities, equipment, testing, dietary requirements and environmental issues
- specific support for the pupil's educational, social and emotional needs
- the level of support needed including in emergencies
- who will provide support, their training needs, expectation of their role, confirmation of their proficiency and cover arrangements
- who in school needs to be aware of the child's condition and the support required
- arrangements for written permission from parents and the head teacher for medication to be administered by a member of staff or self-administered (children who are competent should be encouraged to take responsibility for managing their own medicines and procedures, with an appropriate level of supervision)
- separate arrangements or procedures required for school trips or other school activities outside of the normal school timetable that will ensure the child can participate
- confidentiality
- what to do if a child refuses to take medicine or carry out a necessary procedure
- what to do in an emergency, who to contact and contingency arrangements
- where a child has SEN but does not have a statement or EHC plan, their special educational needs should be mentioned in their individual healthcare plan

### **Responsibilities**

Supporting a child with a medical condition is not the sole responsibility of one person. The school will work collaboratively with any relevant person or agency to provide effective support for the child.

#### *The Governing Body*

- must make arrangements to support pupils with medical conditions and ensure this policy is developed and implemented
- must ensure sufficient staff receive suitable training and are competent to support children with medical conditions
- must ensure the appropriate level of insurance is in place and appropriately reflects the level of risk

#### *The Head Teacher/Senior Leadership Team*

- should ensure all staff are aware of this policy and understand their role in its implementation

- should ensure all staff who need to know are informed of a child's condition
- should ensure sufficient numbers of staff are trained to implement the policy and deliver IHPs, including in emergency and contingency situations, and they are appropriately insured
- is responsible for the development of IHPs
- should contact the school nursing service in the case of any child with a medical condition who has not been brought to the attention of the school nurse

#### *School Staff*

- any staff member may be asked to provide support to pupils with medical conditions, including the administering of medicines, although they cannot be required to do so

#### **General Information**

The school does not have to accept a child identified as having a medical condition at times when it would be detrimental to the health of that child or others to do so.

The following practice is considered not acceptable:

- preventing children from having their medication administered when necessary
- assuming children with the same condition require the same treatment
- ignoring the views of the child, their parents; ignoring medical advice or opinion
- sending children with medical conditions home frequently or prevent them from staying for normal school activities (unless specified in IHP)
- penalise children for their attendance record if their absences are related to their medical condition
- preventing children from drinking, eating or taking toilet breaks whenever they need to in order to manage their medical condition effectively
- require parents to attend school to administer medication or provide medical support to their child, including toileting issues
- prevent children from participating, or create unnecessary barriers to children participating in any aspect of school life, including school trips