

Wickhambrook Primary Academy



'Striving for excellence, creating a limitless future'

Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions Policy

Last reviewed: Autumn Term 2019

To be reviewed by: AutumnTerm 2021

Legislation and statutory responsibilities

This policy meets the requirements under [Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014](#), which places a duty on governing boards to make arrangements for supporting pupils at their school with medical conditions.

It is also based on the Department for Education's statutory guidance: [Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions](#).

This policy also complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

Introduction

Students with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they can play an active part in school, remain healthy and achieve their academic potential, with full access to education and the same opportunities at school as any other child.

We recognise that pupils with long-term and complex medical conditions may require on-going support, medicines or care while at school to help them to manage their condition and keep them well. Others may require monitoring and interventions in emergency circumstances.

We also recognise that needs may change over time, and that this may result in extended absence from school. The school will make every effort to minimise the impact on a child's educational attainment and support his or her emotional and general well-being, including any necessary re-integration programmes.

Individual Health Care Plans and One Page Health Care Plans

A pupil who has a medical condition that is long term with acute episodes, requires on-going support, and involves the need for medication and/or care whilst at school must have an Individual Healthcare Plan.

The SENCO will be responsible for developing Healthcare Plans. Their purpose is to ensure that they provide clarity about what needs to be done, when and by whom. They will often be essential, such as in cases where conditions fluctuate or where there is a high risk that emergency intervention will be needed, and they are likely to be helpful in the majority of other cases, especially where medical conditions are long-term and complex. However, not all children will require one. The school, healthcare professionals and parents should agree, based on evidence, when a healthcare plan would be inappropriate or disproportionate. If consensus cannot be reached, the Headteacher is best placed to take a final view. At Wichambrook Primary Academy, One Page Health Care plans are also created for children in conjunction with their Individual Healthcare Plan or when a full Individual Health Care Plan is not needed. Class teachers are responsible for updating and amending One Page Health Care plans with parents on a twice yearly basis.

Individual healthcare plans, and their review, may be initiated, in consultation with the parent, by a member of school staff or a healthcare professional involved in providing care for the child. Plans will be drawn up in partnership between the school, parents, and information from relevant

healthcare professionals. Wherever possible, the child will also be involved in the process. The aim is to capture the steps which a school should take to help the child manage their condition and overcome any potential barriers to getting the most from their education. Responsibility for ensuring the plan is finalised rests with the school.

The individual healthcare plans are reviewed at least annually, or earlier if evidence is presented that the child's needs have changed. The plans are devised with the child's best interests in mind, ensuring that an assessment of risk to the child's education, health and social well-being is managed minimising disruption. Reviews will be linked to any education healthcare plan the child may have.

Individual Healthcare Plans must:

- Be clear and concise
- Be written in partnership with parents, child, healthcare professional and key staff
- Be reviewed annually or when there is a change in the condition of the child
- Be easily accessible whilst preserving confidentiality
- Outline educational provision if the student is unable to attend school
- Contain details of the medical condition, its triggers, signs, symptoms and treatments
- Include relevant SEN information
- Provide details of 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, modifications to buildings, furniture or equipment, and environmental issues e.g. crowded corridors, travel time between lessons
- Outline specific support for the student's educational, social and emotional needs – for example, how absences will be managed, changes to the school day and details of a personalised curriculum, requirements for extra time to complete exams, use of rest periods or additional support in catching up with lessons, counselling sessions etc
- Outline the level of support needed, (some children will be able to take responsibility for their own health needs), including in emergencies. If a child is self-managing their medication, this should be clearly stated with appropriate arrangements for monitoring
- State who will provide this support, their training needs, expectations of their role and confirmation of proficiency to provide support for the child's medical condition from healthcare professional; and cover arrangements for when they are unavailable

It will be the responsibility of all staff to ensure that the plan is followed.

The healthcare plan is a confidential document. The level of detail within will depend on the complexity of the child's condition and the degree of support needed. Where a child has a special educational need, but does not have a statement or EHC plan, their special educational needs will be mentioned in their individual healthcare plan.

Roles and Responsibilities

Supporting a child with a medical condition during school hours is not the sole responsibility of one person. The school will work collaboratively; both with staff within the organisation and with outside agencies, as the circumstances of each child dictate.

1. The Governing Body

The Governing Body will ensure that pupils in school with medical conditions are supported. It will ensure that a policy is developed, implemented and monitored. The Governing Body will ensure that staff receive suitable training and that they are competent before they take on the responsibility to support children with medical conditions.

2. Headteacher

The Headteacher and SENCO will:

- Ensure that the Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy is developed and all staff are aware of the policy and that they understand their role in implementing the policy
- Ensure that all staff who need to know are aware of a child's condition
- Ensure that sufficient trained members of staff are available to implement the policy and deliver against all the individual healthcare plans, including in contingency and emergency situations
- Have overall responsibility for the development of individual healthcare plans
- Ensure that all staff are appropriately insured to support pupils in this way
- Liaise with the school nurse in respect of a child who has a medical condition, including in cases where the situation has not yet been brought to the attention of the school nursing service
- Ensure the monitoring of individual healthcare plans
- Inform Supply teachers of any children with Medical Conditions in the class they are teaching within.

3. School Staff

Any member of the school staff may be asked to provide support to pupils with medical conditions, including the administration of medicines, although they cannot be required to do so. Although administering medicines is not part of a teacher's professional duties, they should take into account the needs of pupils with medical conditions they teach. Any member of school staff should know what to do and respond accordingly when they become aware that a pupil with a medical condition needs help. Risk assessments for school visits and other school activities outside the normal timetable is the Class Teacher's responsibility.

4. Pupils

Pupils with medical conditions may be best placed to provide information about how their condition affects them.

If it is deemed, after discussion with the Parents/Carers, that a child is competent to manage their own health needs and medicines, the school will encourage them to take responsibility for managing their own medicines and procedures. This will be reflected within Individual Health Care Plans. Class medicines e.g. inhalers are kept together by the Class Teacher so children and all staff always know the location and also so they can be transported with the class. Other medication these will be stored in a child's individual named box or locked cabinet in the main office to ensure

that the safeguarding of other children is not compromised. Staff will help to administer medicines and manage procedures for children. If a child refuses to take medicine or carry out a necessary procedure, staff should not force them to do so but instead follow the procedure agreed in the Individual Health Care Plan. Parents/Carers should be informed, so that alternative options can be considered.

5. Parents

Parents should provide the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs. At Wickhambrook Primary Academy parents are seen as key partners and they will be involved in the development and review of their child's individual healthcare plan, and may be involved in its drafting. Parents should carry out the action they have agreed to as part of its implementation, e.g. Provide medicines and equipment and ensure they or another nominated adult are contactable at all times.

6. Local Authority

The Local Authority has a duty to commission a school nurse service to this school. It is expected that the Local Authority will provide support, advice and guidance, including suitable training for school staff.

Staff Training and Support

Training needs for staff will be assessed by looking at the current and anticipated needs of pupils already on the roll. It may be possible to determine training needs by early information relating to a child about to be admitted to the school. All members of staff providing support to a child with medical needs will have been trained beforehand. Staff who provide support to pupils with medical conditions will be included in meetings where this is discussed.

The type of training, and frequency of refresher training, will be determined by the actual medical condition that a child may have and this will be supported by the Governing Body. Some training may be arranged by the school, and other types may make use of the skills and knowledge provided by the school nurse service, or specialist nurse services, among others. Other training may involve on-site or off-site provision. Parents will be asked to supply specific advice and then this will be reinforced with healthcare professional advice.

All staff will be made aware of the specific needs of each child with a medical condition and will be competent and confident enough to deliver the support.

It must be noted that a First Aid certificate alone will not suffice for training to support children with medical conditions.

Managing Medicines on School Premises

Where clinically possible, medicines should be prescribed in dose frequencies which enable them to be taken outside school hours. Where this is not possible, the following will apply:

- Medicines will only be administered at school when it would be detrimental to a child's

health or school attendance not to do so

- No child will be given prescription or non-prescription medicines without their parent's written consent, except in exceptional circumstances where the medicine has been prescribed to the child without the knowledge of the parents
- Non-prescription medicines will be administered by parents, should they be needed during the school day. For the administering of non-prescription medicines during an educational visit, parents should provide written consent
- No child will be given a medicine containing aspirin unless it has been prescribed by a doctor. Parents will be required to give their written consent
- 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 exception to this is insulin which must be in-date, but will generally be available to schools inside an insulin pen or pump, rather than its original container.
- Medicines will be stored safely. This may be in the Office or in a fridge in the staff room. Some medicines may be stored securely in classrooms. Children who need to access their medicines immediately, such as those requiring asthma inhalers, will be shown where they are. On educational visits, medicines will also be available and they will be looked after by a relevant member of staff.
- If a controlled drug has been prescribed, it will be kept securely and stored in a non-portable container. Named staff only will have access to such medication so that it can be administered to the specific child. The school will keep a record of doses administered, stating what, how and how much was administered, when and by whom. Any side effects of the medication to be administered will be noted.
- When no longer required, medicines should be returned to the parent to arrange for safe disposal

Written records will be kept of all medicines administered to children and parents will be informed if their child has been unwell at school.

School Medicine

The school holds an **emergency epi pen and inhaler** in the medicine cabinet in the school office. These can only be administered to children if permission is given in writing by parents.

A defibrillator is also available in the school office.

Emergency Procedures

A child's individual healthcare plan will clearly define what constitutes an emergency and the action to be taken, including ensuring that all relevant staff are aware of emergency symptoms and procedures. It may be necessary to inform other pupils in general terms so that they can inform a member of staff immediately if they think help is needed.

If a child is taken to hospital, staff should stay with the child until the parent arrives, or accompany a child taken to hospital by ambulance. Accurate information about the child will be provided to the emergency services at the call out stage, during any first response stage, or subsequent moving on to hospital.

Educational Visits and Sporting Activities

The school will consider how a child's medical condition will impact on their participation. We will encourage all children to participate according to their ability and make any necessary

reasonable adjustments, unless evidence from a clinician, such as a GP, states that this is not possible.

The class teacher will consider what reasonable adjustments may need to be made after carrying out a risk assessment so that planning arrangements take account of any steps needed to ensure that children with medical conditions are included. This will require consultation with parents and pupils and advice from the relevant healthcare professional to ensure that pupils can participate safely.

Unacceptable Practice

Although school staff should use their discretion and judge each case on its merits with reference to the child's individual healthcare plan, it is not generally acceptable practice to:

- Prevent children from easily accessing their inhalers and medication and administering their medication when and where necessary
- Assume that every child with the same condition requires the same treatment
- Ignore the views of the child or their parents; or ignore medical evidence or opinion, (although this may be challenged)
- Send children with medical conditions home frequently or prevent them from staying for normal school activities, including lunch, unless this is specified in their individual healthcare plans
- If the child becomes ill, send them to the school office unaccompanied or with someone unsuitable
- Penalise children for their attendance record if their absences are related to their medical condition e.g. Hospital appointments
- Prevent pupils 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 child, 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 children from participating, or create unnecessary barriers to children participating in any aspect of school life, including educational visits, e. by requiring parents to accompany the child

Liability and Indemnity

The Governing Body at Wickhambrook Primary Academy ensures that appropriate insurance is in place and that it reflects the level of risk. The insurance covers staff providing support to pupils with medical conditions. From time to time, the school may need to review the level of cover for health care procedures and any associated related training requirements.

Complaints

Should parents/carers be dissatisfied with the support provided they should discuss their concerns directly with the school. If for whatever reason this does not resolve the issue, they may make a formal complaint via the complaints procedure outlined in the school's Complaints Policy

Monitoring and Review

Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions Policy

This policy will be reviewed in line with the school's policy review cycle.

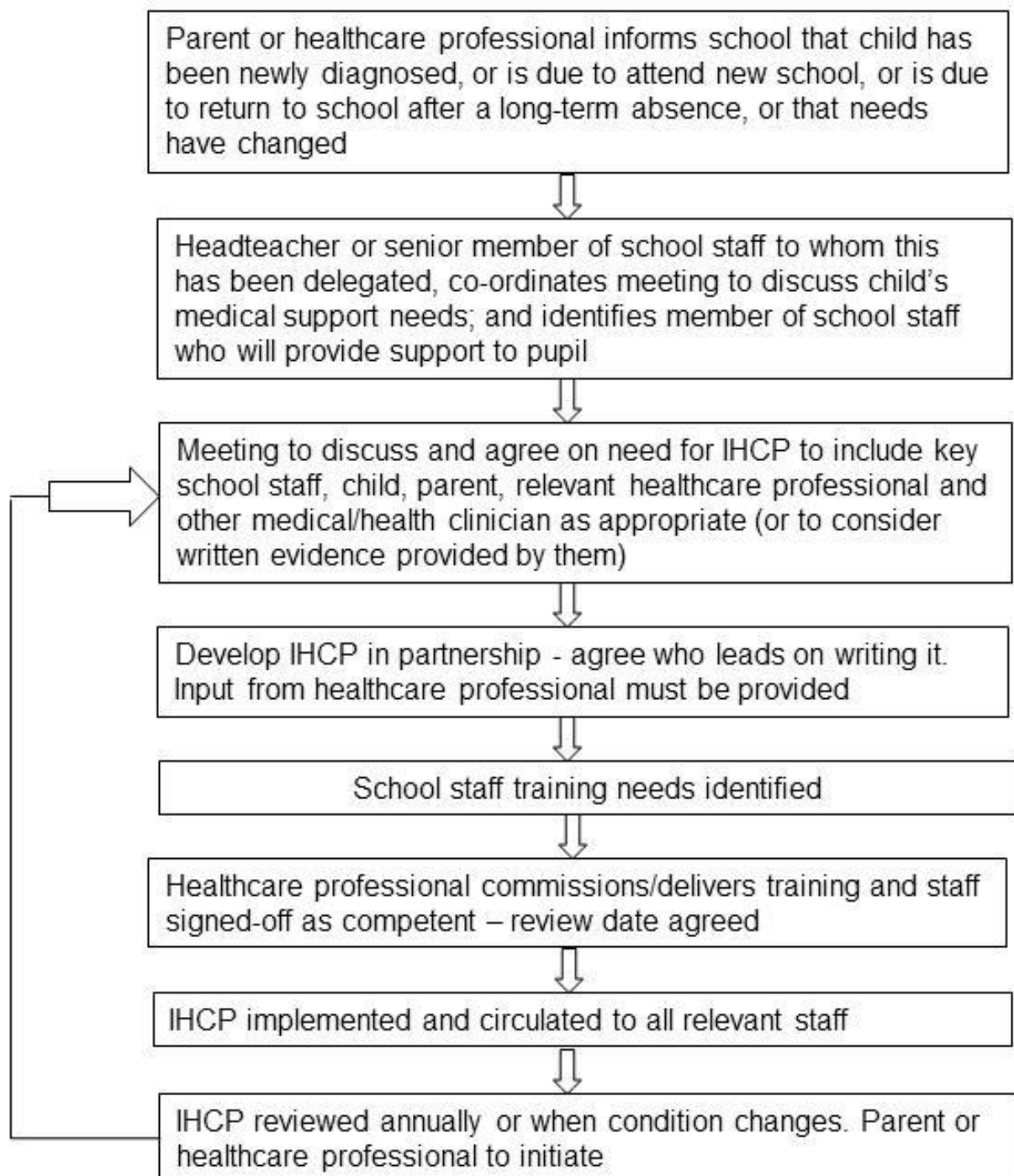
Chair of Governors..... Darren Woodward

Autumn 2019

Date of Review: Autumn Term 2021

Appendix A

Model Process for Developing Individual Health Care Plans



Appendix B

Wickhambrook Primary Academy Individual Health Care Plan

Health Care Plan

Name of school/setting	
Child's name	
Group/class/form	
Date of birth	
Child's address	
Medical diagnosis or condition	
Date	
Review Date	

Family Contact Information

Name	
Phone no. (work)	
(home)	
(mobile)	
Name	
Phone no. (work)	
(home)	
(mobile)	

Clinic/Hospital Contact

Name	
Phone no.	

G.P. Contact

Name

Phone no.

Describe medical needs and give details of child's symptoms

Daily care requirements (*e.g before sport/at lunchtime*)

Describe what constitutes an emergency for the child and the action to take if this occurs

Follow up care

Who is responsible in an emergency (state if different for off-site activities)

From copied to