

South Ossett Infants Academy



Children with Medical Conditions Policy Including the Administering of Medicines and First Aid

Updated April 2023

Next Review: December 2024

Policy Statement

South Ossett Infants' Academy is an inclusive community that welcomes and supports pupils with medical conditions. We understand that children can suffer from long term, short term, chronic and acute illnesses and will provide for all pupils without exception or discrimination. This includes both physical and mental health conditions.

South Ossett Infants' Academy provides all children with any medical condition the same opportunities as others at school, enabling them to play a full and active role in school life, remain healthy and achieve their academic potential.

We will help to ensure they can:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution

South Ossett Infants' Academy (SOIA) will make sure all staff understand their duty of care to children and young people in the event of an emergency. All staff feel confident in knowing what to do in an emergency.

We understands that certain medical conditions are serious and potentially life threatening, particularly if poorly managed or misunderstood. At SOIA we understand the importance of medication and care being taken as directed by healthcare professionals and parents. All children with long term medical conditions, where appropriate, will have an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) written as soon as possible after diagnosis and reviewed at least annually or more often if necessary.

All staff understand the medical conditions that affect children at this school. We ensure staff receive appropriate first aid training and have easy access to first aid equipment. The main first aid boxes are located in the staff room and in the Annex and full, portable first aid kits are taken on any off site visits. First Aid kits are taken outside at playtime and regularly checked and restocked by the school caretaker. It is the responsibility of all staff to inform the school business manager if stocks are low or missing.

South Ossett Infants' Academy ensures this policy is applied across the curriculum, including PE and Educational Visits.

The named member of school staff responsible for this medical conditions policy, including the administering of medicines and first aid and its implementation is **Mrs Tina Shute, Head Teacher.**

Policy Framework

The policy framework describes the essential criteria for how the school can meet the needs of children and young people with long term and short term medical conditions and those suffering from unexpected illness or injury at school.

We are an inclusive community that supports and welcomes pupils with medical conditions. We will;

- Be welcoming and supportive of pupils with medical conditions. We will provide children with medical conditions with the same opportunities and access to activities (both school based and out of school) as other children. No child will be denied admission or prevented from taking up a place in this

school because arrangements for their medical condition have not been made; school will liaise with health professionals to ensure necessary steps are put in place as quickly as possible.

- Listen to the views of children and parents.
- Ensure children and parents feel confident in the care they receive from this school and the level of care that meets their needs.
- Ensure all children joining at normal transition times will have arrangements in place to manage their medical condition by the beginning of that term. It is our goal that any child joining the school mid-term will have arrangements in place within no longer than two weeks.
- Understand the medical conditions of children at this school and that they may be serious, adversely affect a child's quality of life and impact on their ability to learn.
- Understand our duty of care to children and young people and know what to do in the event of an emergency.
- Understand and support the medical conditions policy.
- Understand that all children with the same medical condition will not have the same needs.
- Recognise that duties in the Children and Families Act 2014 (England only) and the Equality Act (England, Wales and Scotland) relate to children with disability or medical conditions is anticipatory. We understand that some children who have medical conditions may also have disabilities and / or special educational needs and this policy may be read in conjunction with the school's SEND policy and the SEND code of practice.

The medical conditions policy is supported by a clear communication plan for staff, parents and other key stakeholders to ensure its full implementation.

- Children, parents, relevant local healthcare staff, and other external stakeholders are informed of and reminded about the medical conditions policy through clear communication channels. The policy will be available on the school's website for public view and all staff will be reminded of the policy and how it is implemented at induction and on an annual basis.

All staff understand and are trained in what to do in an emergency at school.

- All school staff, including temporary or supply staff (and volunteers if and when appropriate), are aware of the medical conditions at this school and understand their duty of care to children in an emergency.
- All staff will receive training in what to do in an emergency and this is refreshed at least once a year.
- All staff should be familiar with normal procedures for avoiding infection and follow basic hygiene procedures. Staff have access to protective clothing and suitable disposal equipment to safely deal with spillages of blood or other bodily fluids, including the changing of dressings.
- All children with a long term medical condition at this school have an Individual Healthcare Plan/Protocol (IHP), which explains what help they will need in an emergency. The IHP will accompany a child should they need to attend hospital. Parental permission will be sought and recorded in the IHP for sharing the IHP with emergency care settings. IHPs should be developed in the context of assessing and managing risks to the child's education, health and social wellbeing and to minimise disruption. IHPs should consider;
 - The medical condition, its trigger, signs, symptoms and treatment
 - The child's resulting needs, including medication (its side-effects and storage) and other treatments, dose, time, facilities, equipment, testing, dietary requirements and environmental issues
 - Specific support for the child's educational, social and emotional needs, for example how absences will be managed, requirements for extra time to complete work, rest periods or additional support including counselling

- The level of support needed, including in emergencies. If a child is self-managing their own medication, this should be clearly stated with arrangements for monitoring
- Who will provide this support, their training needs, expectations of their role and confirmation of their proficiency to provide support for the child's medical needs from a healthcare professional
- Who in school needs to be aware of the child's condition and the support required
- Written permission from parents and the head teacher for medication to be administered
- Separate arrangements or procedures required for school trips or other school activities outside the normal school timetable that will ensure the child can participate, e.g. risk assessments
- Arrangements for travel to and from school and what should be done if an emergency arises - at this school we request that the parent, or an appropriate representative, delivers and collects the child to and from school
- Where confidentiality issues are raised by the parent or child, the designated individuals to be entrusted with information about the child's condition
- What to do in an emergency, including who to contact and contingency arrangements

All staff understand and are trained in the school's general emergency procedures.

- All staff, including temporary or supply staff, know what action to take in an emergency and receive updates at least yearly. Training is provided at the start of each academic year, and as required throughout the year, and policies and procedures are discussed with temporary and supply staff. Training needs will be identified and discussed at least annually as part of the school's appraisal process. The induction of new staff will include training for supporting children with medical needs.
- Any member of staff providing support to a child with medical needs will have received suitable training.
- If a child needs to attend hospital, a member of staff (preferably known to the pupil) will stay with them until a parent or legal guardian arrives, or accompany a child taken to hospital by ambulance. A member of staff must not take a child to hospital in their own car.

Providing care and support and administering medication and first aid at school;

- We understand the importance of medication being taken and care received as detailed in a child's IHP or short term medication form.
- We will make sure that there are several members of staff who have been trained to administer the medication and meet the care needs of an individual child. We will ensure there are sufficient members of staff trained to cover any absences, staff turnover and other contingencies. The school's governing body has made sure that there is the appropriate level of insurance and liability cover in place.
- We will not give medication to a child under 16 without a parent's written consent except in exceptional circumstances. Medication may only be administered if prescribed by a healthcare professional. Medicines bought 'over the counter' will not routinely be administered, except where there are exceptional circumstances. Where a long lasting viral infection requires it, parents may, by arrangement, come into school during school hours to administer a single dose of analgesic and/or antipyretic medicine such as paracetamol or ibuprofen if they feel it is necessary.
- Medicines (prescribed by a doctor) will only be administered at school when it would be detrimental to the child's health not to do so and where it is not clinically possible to arrange doses to be taken solely outside of school hours. **We will normally only administer one dose of prescription medication in cases where a child has been instructed to take 3 or 4 doses of the prescribed medicine per day.**

- When administering medication, for example prescribed pain relief or antibiotics, we will check the maximum dosage and when the previous dose was given. Parents will need to inform school of the time the morning's dose was administered at home.
- Children at this school will not administer their own medication, unless with an inhaler, they have received appropriate training and it is the wish of the child and their parent. This will be recorded on the medicine form. A member of staff must be present to supervise and be prepared to intervene if necessary to ensure the child's health and safety are not compromised. Whilst children will be encouraged to keep themselves healthy, and self-care is to be promoted, we recognise that some children's needs may be complex and some medical conditions can be fatal if not managed well.
- If a child refuses to take their medication or carry out a necessary procedure, staff should not force them to do so, but follow the procedure agreed in the IHP, if applicable. Parents will be informed.
- We will make sure that a trained member of staff is available to accompany a child with a medical condition on an off-site educational visit and the needs of the child, associated risks and how these are to be managed will be assessed.
- Parents understand that they should let the school know immediately if their child's needs change and provide enough information to ensure their needs are met.
- We will not accept changes to prescribed medication from a parent; changes to dosage/frequency/amount must come from a Doctor's prescription.
- The Academy has an emergency inhaler for use if a child's own inhaler is for any reason unavailable. Parents/carers must sign to give permission for staff to administer this

Guidance on the storage of medication and equipment at school.

- We make sure that all staff understand what constitutes an emergency for an individual child and makes sure that emergency medication / equipment (i.e inhaler, epipen) is readily available wherever the child is in the school and on off-site activities, and is not locked away. Children may carry their emergency medication / equipment with them if this is appropriate or know where and how to access it. Children at this school know to ask any member of staff and that they may have immediate access to their inhaler when required. In this school medications are stored safely in the fridge (in the Annex or Main School) if required to be stored at a controlled temperature, in the first aid cupboard in the staffroom, or in the office or in the classroom for inhalers and epipens.
- The school will keep controlled drugs stored securely, but accessibly. Staff at this school can administer a controlled drug to a pupil once they have had specialist training, where applicable.
- We will store medication that is in date and labelled in its original container. The exceptions to this are insulin and adrenalin (auto-injector), which although must still be in date, will generally be supplied in an injector pen or pump. **Medication will only be accepted where it is in its original container, complete with dispensing label including the child's name and instructions for administering from a qualified healthcare professional.**
- Parents need to check all medication held in school on at least a termly basis and all medicines which will expire before the end of the following term will need to be replaced before the expiry date.
- We dispose of needles and other sharps in line with local policies. Sharps boxes are held securely at school and will accompany a child on off-site visits. They are collected and disposed of in line with local authority procedures.

Record keeping

- Parents at this school are asked if their child has any medical conditions on the admissions form.
- We use an IHP to record the support an individual child needs around their long term medical condition, where this is appropriate for the child. The IHP is developed with the pupil (where appropriate), parent, school staff, specialist nurse (where appropriate) and relevant healthcare services.

- We have a centralised register of IHPs, and an identified member of staff who has responsibility for this register (SenCo).
- IHPs are reviewed regularly, at least every year or whenever the child's needs change.
- The child (where appropriate), parents, specialist nurse (where appropriate), and relevant healthcare services hold a copy of the IHP. Other school staff, including lunchtime supervisors, are aware and have access to relevant aspects of the IHPs for children in their care.
- We make sure that the child's confidentiality is protected.
- We seek permission from parents before sharing medical information with any other party.
- We meet with the child (where appropriate), parent, specialist nurse (where appropriate), and relevant healthcare services prior to any extended day visit to discuss and make a plan for any extra care requirements that may be needed. This is recorded on the pupil's IHP which will accompany them on the visit.
- We keep an accurate record of all medication administered, including the dose, time, date and supervising staff.
- We make sure that all staff providing support to a pupil have received suitable training and ongoing support, to make sure they have the confidence to provide the necessary support and that they fulfil the requirements set out in the pupil's IHP. This should be provided by the specialist nurse / school nurse / other suitably qualified healthcare professional and / or the parent.

The whole school environment is inclusive and favourable to children with medical conditions. This includes the physical environment, as well as social, sporting and educational activities.

- We are committed to providing a physical environment accessible to children with medical conditions and children are consulted to ensure this accessibility. We are also committed to an accessible environment for out of school activities.
- We make sure the needs of children with medical conditions are adequately considered to ensure their involvement in structured and unstructured activities, including extended school activities.
- All staff are aware of the potential social problems that children with medical conditions may experience and use this knowledge, alongside the school's anti-bullying policy, to help prevent and deal with any problems. They use opportunities such as PSHE and science lessons to raise awareness of medical conditions to help promote a positive environment.
- We understand the importance of all children taking part in physical activity and that all relevant staff make appropriate adjustments to physical activity sessions to make sure they are accessible to all pupils. This includes out of school clubs and team sports.
- We understand that all relevant staff are aware that children should not be forced to take part in activities if they are unwell. They should also be aware of children who have been advised to avoid / take special precautions during activity, and the potential triggers for a pupil's condition when exercising and how to minimise these.
- We make sure that children have the appropriate medication/equipment/food available during physical activity.
- We make sure that children with medical conditions can participate fully in all aspects of the curriculum and enjoy the same opportunities at school as any other child, and that appropriate adjustments and extra support are provided.
- All school staff understand that frequent absences, or symptoms, such as limited concentration and frequent tiredness, may be due to a child's medical condition. We will not penalise children for their attendance if their absence relates to their medical condition. Following absence, reintegration back into school will be properly supported so children with medical conditions fully engage with learning and do not fall behind when they are unable to attend. Short term absences, including those for medical appointments are effectively managed as per the school's attendance policy.

- We will refer children with medical conditions who are finding it difficult to keep up educationally to the SENCo who will liaise with the child (where appropriate), parent and the child's healthcare professional.
- This school makes sure that a risk assessment is carried out before any out of school educational visit. The needs of children with medical conditions are considered during this process and plans are put in place for any additional medication, equipment or support that may be required.

Common triggers that can make common medical conditions worse or can bring on an emergency. We are actively working towards reducing or eliminating these health and safety risks

- We are committed to identifying and reducing triggers both at school and on out of school visits.
- School staff have been given training and written information on medical conditions which includes avoiding / reducing exposure to common triggers.
- The IHP details an individual child's triggers and details how to make sure the child remains safe during the whole school day and on out of school activities. Risk assessments are carried out on all out of school activities, taking into account the needs of pupils with medical conditions.
- We review all medical emergencies and incidents to see how they could be avoided, and changes school policy according to these reviews.

Each member of the school and health community knows their roles and responsibilities in maintaining and implementing an effective medical conditions policy.

- We work in partnership with all relevant parties including the child (where appropriate), parent, governing body, staff, employers and healthcare professionals to ensure that the policy is planned, implemented and maintained successfully.
- The governing body should ensure parents are aware of the school's complaints policy and procedures should they be dissatisfied with the support provided to their child.

This policy was discussed, reviewed and amended with governors in December 2021

Date of next review December 2024

South Ossett Infants' Academy

Inhaler/ Regular Medication in School

Information for Parents/Carers

1. Inhalers or any other form of regular medication can only be administered when the attached form has been signed.
2. Any change in dosage or medication the school must be notified in writing immediately.
3. Inhalers will be stored in the classroom and be accessible to the child.
4. Regular medication will be stored in the fridge or the First Aid cabinet in the staffroom.
5. The class teacher or practitioner will supervise the child using the inhaler.
6. Medicines stored in the First Aid cabinet in the staffroom or the fridge will be supervised by the Headteacher or school administrator.
7. The medication must be named and have the correct dosage instructions.
8. Parents/Carers must be informed if the medication has been taken that day.
9. Parents are responsible for the delivery to and collection from the school office.
10. Parents/Carers are responsible for taking home medication at the end of each half term and returning it to school.
11. Parents/Carers are responsible for ensuring inhalers, adrenaline pens etc are clean and in working order, and that medicine is still in date and in a good working condition.
12. Parents will be expected to sign this form termly ensuring that any changes have been noted.

I hereby give consent for (child's name).....

to take (name of medication).....

at (time/s each day).....

and I have read the school's Medicine Policy.

Any further details required.....

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Signature of Parent.....

Date.....

Headteachers Signature.....

Date.....

South Ossett Infants' Academy

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12. Parents will be expected to sign this form termly ensuring that any changes have been noted.

I hereby give consent for (child's name).....

to take (name of medication).....

at (time/s each day).....

and I have read the school's Medicine Policy.

Any further details required.....

.....

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I hereby give consent for my child to take the required dose of salbutamol from the Academy's own emergency inhaler/spacer if my child's own inhaler is unavailable.

(Please cross this out if you do not wish to give your permission for this.)

Signature of Parent.....

Date.....

Headteachers Signature.....

Date.....

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date attended training</u>	<u>Paediatric (P) or First Aid at work (FA)</u>
Mrs Frazer	3.3.22	P
Mrs Hobson	7.7.22	P
Mrs Lilley	10.2.21	P
Mrs Freeman	20.5.19	P
Mrs Watt	12.1.22	P
Mrs Ryan	9.11.21	FA
Miss Nisbet	26.4.22	FA
Miss Allen	26.4.22	FA
Mrs Shute	16.2.22	FA
Mrs Newton	3.11.21	P
Mrs Torr	22.9.20	P