



Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

Coads Green Primary School



This policy incorporates the statutory policy requirements of 'Children with health needs who cannot attend school' and 'Supporting pupils with medical needs'

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Coads Green Primary School wishes to ensure that pupils with medical conditions receive appropriate care and support at school. This policy has been developed in line with the Department for Education's guidance released in April 2014 – "Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions". However there is no overarching legal duty upon School Staff to administer medication. This guidance does not alter in any way the right of staff not to volunteer to do so.

1. Key roles and responsibilities

The Governing Body is responsible for

- The overall implementation of the Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy and procedures of Coads Green Primary School.
- Ensuring that the Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy, as written, does not discriminate on any grounds including, but not limited to: ethnicity/national origin, culture, religion, gender, disability or sexual orientation.
- Handling complaints regarding this policy as outlined in the school's Complaints and Concerns Policy.
- Ensuring that all pupils with medical conditions are able to participate fully in all aspects of school life.
- Ensuring that relevant training is delivered to staff members who take on responsibility to support children with medical conditions.
- Guaranteeing that information and teaching support materials regarding supporting pupils with medical conditions are available to members of staff with responsibilities under this policy.
- Keeping written records of any and all medicines administered to individual pupils and across the school population

The Headteacher is responsible for

- The day-to-day implementation and management of the Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy and procedures of Coads Green Primary School.
- Ensuring the policy is developed effectively with partner agencies.
- Making staff aware of this policy.
- Liaising with healthcare professionals regarding the training required for staff.
- Making staff who need to know aware of a child's medical condition.
- Ensuring a sufficient number of trained members of staff are available to implement the policy.
- Contacting the school nursing service in the case of any child who has a medical condition.

Staff members are responsible for

- Taking appropriate steps to support children with medical conditions.
- Where necessary, making reasonable adjustments to include pupils with medical conditions into lessons.
- Administering medication, if they have agreed to undertake that responsibility.
- Undertaking training to achieve the necessary competency for supporting pupils with medical conditions, if they have agreed to undertake that responsibility.
- Familiarising themselves with procedures detailing how to respond when they become aware that a pupil with a medical condition needs help.

School nurses are responsible for:

- Notifying the school when a child has been identified with requiring support in school due to a medical condition.
- Liaising locally with lead clinicians on appropriate support.

Parents and carers are responsible for:

- Keeping the school informed about any changes to their child/children's health.
- Completing a parental agreement for school to administer medicine form before bringing medication into school.
- Providing the school with the medication their child requires and keeping it up to date.
- Collecting any leftover medicine at the end of the course or year.
- Discussing medications with their child/children prior to requesting that a staff member administers the medication.

2. Definitions

- "Medication" is defined as any prescribed or over the counter medicine.
- "Prescription medication" is defined as any drug or device prescribed by a doctor.
- A "staff member" is defined as any member of staff employed at Coads Green Primary School, including teachers.

3. Training of staff

- Teachers and support staff will receive training on the Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy as part of their new starter induction.
- Teachers and support staff will receive regular and ongoing training as part of their development.
- No staff member may administer prescription medicines or undertake any healthcare procedures without undergoing training specific to the responsibility, including administering

- No staff member may administer drugs by injection unless they have received training in this responsibility
- A record of training undertaken and a list of teachers qualified to undertake responsibilities under this policy will be kept.

4. The role of the child

- Children who are competent will be encouraged to take responsibility for managing their own medicines and procedures.
- Medicines will be located in an easily accessible location.
- If pupils refuse to take medication or to carry out a necessary procedure, parents will be informed so that alternative options can be explored.
- Pupils will be encouraged to take their own medication under the supervision of a teacher.

5. Medicines

- Where possible, it is preferable for medicines to be prescribed in frequencies that allow the pupil to take them outside of school hours.
- If this is not possible, prior to staff members administering any medication, the parents/carers of the child must complete and sign a parental agreement for a school to administer medicine form.
- No child will be given any prescription or non-prescription medicines without written parental consent except in exceptional circumstances.
- Where a pupil is prescribed medication without their parents'/carers' knowledge, every effort will be made to encourage the pupil to involve their parents while respecting their right to confidentiality.
- No child under 16 years of age will be given medication containing aspirin without a doctor's prescription.
- 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.
- A maximum of one month's supply of the medication may be provided to the school at one time.
- 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.
- Any medications left over at the end of the course will be returned to the child's parents.
- Written records will be kept of any medication administered to children.
- Pupils will never be prevented from accessing their medication.
- Coads Green Primary School cannot be held responsible for side effects that occur when medication is taken correctly.

6. Emergencies

- Medical emergencies will be dealt with under the school's emergency procedures.
- Pupils will be informed in general terms of what to do in an emergency such as telling a teacher.
- If a pupil needs to be taken to hospital, a member of staff will remain with the child until their parents arrive.

7. Avoiding unacceptable practice

Coads Green Primary School understands that the following behaviour is unacceptable:

- Assuming that pupils with the same condition require the same treatment.
- Ignoring the views of the pupil and/or their parents.
- Ignoring medical evidence or opinion.
- Sending pupils home frequently or preventing them from taking part in activities at school
- Sending the pupil to the medical room or school office alone if they become ill.
- Penalising pupils 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.
- Creating barriers to children participating in school life, including school trips.
- Refusing to allow pupils to eat, drink or use the toilet when they need to in order to manage their condition.

Reviewed by Coads Green Primary School: November 2019

Adopted by the Full Governing Body: December 2019