

# RIVERDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL SUPPORTING PUPILS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS POLICY

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## STATEMENT OF INTENT

The governing body of Riverdale Primary 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 mental health, receive appropriate support allowing them to play a full and active role in school life, remain healthy, have full access to education (including school trips and physical education) and achieve their academic potential.

Riverdale Primary believes it is important that parents/carers of pupils with medical conditions feel confident that the school provides effective support for their child's medical condition, and that pupil's feel safe in the school environment.

There are also social and emotional implications associated with medical conditions. Pupils with medical conditions can develop emotional disorders, such as self-consciousness, anxiety and depression, and be subject to bullying. This policy aims to minimise the risks of pupils experiencing these difficulties.

Long-term absences as a result of medical conditions can affect educational attainment, impact integration with peers, and affect wellbeing and emotional health. This policy contains procedures to minimise the impact of long-term absence and effectively manage short-term absence.

Some pupils with medical conditions may be considered to be 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 special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and have a statement or education, health and care (EHC) plan collating their health, social and SEND provision. For these pupils, compliance with the DfE's 'Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years' and the school's 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/carers.

Signed by:

_____	Headteacher	Date: _____
_____	Chair of governors	Date: _____

## 1. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

1.1. This policy has due regard to legislation including, but not limited to:

- The Children and Families Act 2014
- The Education Act 2002
- The Education Act 1996 (as amended)

- The Children Act 1989
- The NHS Act 2006
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- The Misuse of Drugs Act 1971
- The Medicines Act 1968
- The School Premises (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014

1.2. This policy also has due regard to the following guidance:

- DfE (2015) 'Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0-25 years'
- DfE (2015) 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions'
- DfEE (2000) 'First aid in schools'
- Ofsted (2019) 'The common inspection framework: education, skills and early years'

## 2. THE ROLE OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY

The governing body:

- Is legally responsible for fulfilling its statutory duties under legislation.
- Ensures that arrangements are in place to support pupils with medical conditions.
- Ensures that pupils with medical conditions can access and enjoy the same opportunities as any other child at the school.
- Works with the LA, health professionals, commissioners and support services to ensure that pupils with medical conditions receive a full education.
- Ensures that, following long-term or frequent absence, pupils with medical conditions are reintegrated effectively.
- Ensures that the focus is on the needs of each pupil and what support is required to support their individual needs.
- Instils confidence in parents/carers and pupils in the school's ability to provide effective support.
- Ensures 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.
- Ensures that no prospective pupil is denied admission to the school because arrangements for their medical condition have not been made.
- Ensures that pupils' health is not put at unnecessary risk. As a result, it 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.

- Ensures that policies, plans, procedures and systems are properly and effectively implemented.
- Chair of Governors holds overall responsibility for policy implementation.
- Provide appropriate information to the Trustees so that they are able to ensure appropriate arrangements are in place within the Trust to support pupils with medical conditions.

### 3. THE ROLE OF THE HEAD TEACHER/EXECUTIVE HEAD

The Head Teacher:

- Ensures that this policy is effectively implemented with partners.
- Ensures that all staff are aware of this policy and understand their role in its implementation.
- Ensures that a sufficient number of staff are trained and available to implement this policy and deliver against all individual healthcare (IHC) plans, including in emergency situations.
- Considers recruitment needs for the specific purpose of ensuring pupils with medical conditions are properly supported.
- Has overall responsibility for the development of IHC plans.
- Ensures that staff are appropriately insured and aware of the insurance arrangements.
- Contacts the school nursing service where a pupil with a medical condition requires support that has not yet been identified.
- Head Teacher is responsible for making sure that medicines are stored safely

### 4. THE ROLE OF PARENTS/CARERS

Parents/carers:

- Notify the school if their child has a medical condition.
- Provide the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs.
- Are involved in the development and review of their child's IHC plan.
- Carry out any agreed actions contained in the IHC plan.
- Ensure that they, or another nominated adult, are contactable at all times.

### 5. THE ROLE OF PUPILS

Pupils:

- Are fully involved in discussions about their medical support needs.
- Contribute to the development of their IHC plan.
- Are sensitive to the needs of pupils with medical conditions.

### 6. THE ROLE OF SCHOOL STAFF

School staff:

- May be asked to provide support to pupils with medical conditions, including the administering of medicines, but are not required to do so.
- Take into account the needs of pupils with medical conditions in their lessons when deciding whether or not to volunteer to administer medication.
- Receive sufficient training and achieve the required level of competency before taking responsibility for supporting pupils with medical conditions.
- Know what to do and respond accordingly when they become aware that a pupil with a medical condition needs help.

## 7. THE ROLE OF THE SCHOOL NURSE

The school nurse:

- At the earliest opportunity, notifies the school when a pupil has been identified as having a medical condition which requires support in school.
- Supports staff to implement IHC plans and provides advice and training.
- Liaises with lead clinicians locally on appropriate support for pupils with medical conditions.

## 8. THE ROLE OF CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUPS (CCGs)

CCGs:

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

## 9. THE ROLE OF OTHER HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

Other healthcare professionals, including GPs and paediatricians:

- Notify the school nurse when a child has been identified as having a medical condition that will require support at school.
- Provide advice on developing IHC plans.
- May provide support in the school for children with particular conditions, e.g. asthma, diabetes and epilepsy.

## 10. THE ROLE OF PROVIDERS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Providers of health services co-operate with the school, including ensuring communication, liaising with the school nurse and other healthcare professionals, and participating in local outreach training.

## 11. THE ROLE OF THE LA

The LA:

- Commissions school nurses for local schools.
- Promotes co-operation between relevant partners.
- Makes joint commissioning arrangements for education, health and care provision for pupils with SEND.
- Provides support, advice and guidance, and suitable training for school staff, ensuring that IHC plans can be effectively delivered.
- Works with the school to ensure that pupils with medical conditions can attend school full-time.

Where a child 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.

## 12. THE ROLE OF OFSTED

Ofsted inspectors will consider how well the school meets the needs of the full range of pupils, including those with medical conditions.

Key judgements are informed by the progress and achievement of pupils with medical conditions, alongside pupils with SEND, and also by pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

## 13. ADMISSIONS

No child is 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.

## 14. NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

When the school is notified that a pupil has a medical condition that requires support in school, the school nurse/parent informs the Head teacher. Following this, the school begins to arrange a meeting with parents/carers, healthcare professionals and the pupil, with a view to discussing the necessity of an IHC plan.

The school does 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 is made by the Head teacher based on all available evidence (including medical evidence and consultation with parents/carers).

For a pupil starting at the school in a September uptake, arrangements are in place prior to their introduction and informed by their previous institution.

Where a pupil joins the school mid-term or a new diagnosis is received, arrangements are put in place as soon as possible.

## 15. STAFF TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Any staff member providing support to a pupil with medical conditions receives suitable training.

Staff do not undertake healthcare procedures or administer medication without appropriate training.

Training needs are assessed by the school nurse through the development and review of IHC plans, on a yearly basis for all school staff, and when a new staff member arrives.

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

The school nurse confirms the proficiency of staff in performing medical procedures or providing medication.

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

Whole school awareness training is carried out on a yearly basis for all staff, and included in the induction of new staff members.

The school nurse identifies 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.

Training is commissioned by the school business manager and provided by the following bodies:

- Commercial training provider
- The school nurse
- Name of GP consultant
- Parents/carers of pupils with medical conditions

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

The governing body will provide details of further continuing professional development opportunities for staff regarding supporting pupils with medical conditions.

## 16. SELF-MANAGEMENT

Following discussion with parents/carers, pupils who are competent to manage their own health needs and medicines are encouraged to take responsibility for self-managing their medicines and procedures. This is reflected in their IHC plan.

Where possible, pupils are allowed to carry their own medicines and relevant devices.

Where it is not possible for pupils to carry their own medicines or devices, they are held in a locked cupboard in the office or classroom as appropriate.

If a child 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 IHC plan is followed. Following such an event, parents/carers are informed so that alternative options can be considered.

If a child with a controlled drug passes it to another child for use, this is an offence and appropriate disciplinary action.



Topical lotions and creams e.g. emollients and sun cream may be brought to the school for application by the child with the permission of the Head teacher.

Cough sweets/throat lozenges etc are **not** medicines and are not allowed in school.

Ofsted and local child protection agencies must be notified within 14 days of any serious accident, illness or injury to, or death of, any child while in their care, and of the action taken.

## 17. SUPPLY TEACHERS AND STAFF ABSENCE

Supply teachers are:

- Provided access to this policy.
- Informed of all relevant medical conditions of pupils in the class they are providing cover for.
- Covered under the school's insurance arrangements.

## 18. INDIVIDUAL HEALTHCARE (IHC) PLANS

The school, healthcare professionals and parent/carer(s) agree, based on evidence, whether an IHC plan is required for a pupil, or whether it would be inappropriate or disproportionate. If no consensus can be reached, the Head teacher makes the final decision.

The school, parent/carer(s) and a relevant healthcare professional work in partnership to create and review IHC plans. Where appropriate, the pupil is also involved in the process.

IHC plans include the following information:

- The medical condition, along with its triggers, symptoms, signs and treatments.
- 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
- The training needs, expectations of the role and who will confirm the supporting staff member's proficiency to carry out the role effectively.
- Cover arrangements for when the named supporting staff member is unavailable.
- Who needs to be made aware of the pupil's condition and the support required
- Arrangements for obtaining written permission from parents/carers and the Head teacher for medicine to be administered by school staff or self-administered by the pupil.
- Separate arrangements or procedures required during school trips and activities.
- Where confidentiality issues are raised by the parent/carer(s) or pupil, the designated individual to be entrusted with information about the pupil's medical condition.

- 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 is used to inform the IHC plan.

IHC plans are easily accessible to those who need to refer to them, but confidentiality is preserved.

IHC plans are reviewed on at least an annual basis, or when a child's medical circumstances change, whichever is sooner.

Where a pupil has an education, health and care (EHC) plan or special needs statement, the IHC plan is linked to it or becomes part of it.

Where a child has SEND but does not have a statement or EHC plan, their SEND should be mentioned in their IHC plan.

Where a child is returning from a period of hospital education, alternative provision or home tuition, we work with the LA and education provider to ensure that their IHC plan identifies the support the child needs to reintegrate.

Governors should ensure that plans are reviewed at least annually or earlier if evidence is presented that the child's needs have changed.

Where a pupil has a special educational need identified in an EHC plan, the individual healthcare plan is linked to or become part of the EHC plan.

## 19. MANAGING MEDICINES

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

In principal pupils under 16 years of age are not given prescription or non-prescription medicines without their parent/carer's written consent – except where the medicine has been prescribed to the pupil without the parent/carer's knowledge. In such cases, the school encourages the pupil to involve their parents/carers, while respecting their right to confidentiality.

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 under 16 years of age is given medicine containing aspirin unless prescribed by a doctor.

Pain relief medicines are never administered without first checking when the previous dose was taken and the maximum dosage allowed.

If a parent wishes a child to take prescribed medicine during school time they should arrange with the office to come to school to administer the medicine themselves if they wish to or complete a school medicine form (**Form AM1**), requesting permission of the Head teacher or his/her nominee to administer the medicine.

Parents/carers are asked to deliver the medicine together with the form to the school office where it will be kept securely. Permission cannot be taken over the telephone or after medication has been given out. The Head teacher has made the decision that we will allow parents/carers to administer none prescribed medicines to their own children.

Where a child needs two or more prescribed medicines, each should be in a separate container, and a separate set of forms completed for each one.

Parents/carers are informed any time medication is administered that is not agreed in an IHC plan.

The school only accepts medicines that are in-date, labelled (showing patient's label provided by the Pharmacist), in their original container, and that 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 are stored safely in the cupboard in the office. Pupils know where their medicines are at all times and are able to access them immediately, whether in school or attending a school trip/residential visit. Where relevant, pupils are informed who holds the key to the relevant storage facility. Medicines need to be in a bag or box when stored (eg in the fridge). Emergency medication is stored in an unlocked labelled cupboard, non-emergency medication is stored in a locked labelled cupboard. Staff medication must be stored in a locked cupboard or similar, these have been provided by school in a number of locations. Staff must ensure that their medication remains secure and should seek further advice or guidance if they are unclear on how to ensure pupils are safeguarded and protected from any risk. Staff medication must be stored securely.

When medicines are no longer required, they are returned to parents/carers for safe disposal. Sharps boxes are always used for the disposal of needles and other sharps.

Controlled drugs are stored in a non-portable container and only named staff members have access; however, these drugs are easily accessed in an emergency. A record is kept of the amount of controlled drugs held and any doses administered.

The school holds children's asthma inhalers in year group areas in their class orange bag, they are individually bagged and clearly marked. An asthma plan must be present in school for all children who bring an asthma inhaler with them. Inhaler devices usually deliver asthma medicines. A spacer device is used with most inhalers, and the child may need some help to do this. It is good practice to support children with asthma to take charge of and use their inhaler from an early age, and many do.

Children who are able to use their inhalers themselves should be allowed to carry them with them. If the child is too young or immature to take personal responsibility for their inhaler, staff should make sure that it is stored in a safe but readily accessible place, and clearly marked with the child's name.

Inhalers should **always** be readily available during physical education, sports activities and educational visits. For a child with severe asthma, the health care professional may prescribe a spare inhaler to be kept in the school.

All pupils with an inhaler will be placed on the Cohort Health Register. All staff are able to access each cohort Health Register.

Staff are alerted to pupils with Serious Health Conditions with pupils' photographs, together with a signed Medical Care Plan, which is kept in the file in the Main Office for reference.

Pupils who have life threatening conditions for which emergency medication has been prescribed should only attend school when the medication is on site and in date. Therefore, parents or carers will be contacted immediately should their child attend and no medication available for them. They will be asked to take the child to the hospital or GP to obtain appropriate medication whereby they can return immediately to school.

As with other medicine, a record should be kept each time the inhaler is used and parents informed.

Staff may administer a controlled drug to a child for whom it has been prescribed. They must do so in accordance with the prescriber's instructions.

Records are kept daily of all medicines administered to individual children – stating what, how and how much was administered, when and by whom.

Staff must not be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance, including medication, which may affect their ability to care for children. Medical advice should be sought.

## 20. RECORD KEEPING

In accordance with the above paragraphs, written records are kept of all medicines administered to children.

Proper record keeping protects both staff and pupils, and provides evidence that agreed procedures have been followed. An initial paper record is kept, this is then uploaded to CPOMS.

## 21. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

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

Where an IHC plan is in place, it should detail:

- What constitutes an emergency.

- What to do in an emergency.

Pupils are 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 remains with the child until their parents/carers arrive.

Where children are considered to be sufficiently responsible to carry their emergency treatment on their person, there should always be a spare set kept safely which is not locked away and is accessible to all staff.

SLT have reviewed how best to store emergency medication; a decision has been reached that it is best stored in a central location as all our children are routinely taught in a number of locations and by a range of staff. This decision ensures all staff are aware of where all emergency medication is stored for all pupils.

All pupils will have individual health-care plans drawn up by parent and school, which must be adhered to.

Staff are alerted to pupils with Serious Health Conditions with pupil's photographs, together with a signed Medical Care Plan, which is kept in the file in the Main Office for reference.

As with other medicine, a record should be kept each time the inhaler is used and parents informed.

Whole school medicine awareness training is carried out by the school nurse and written confirmation of competency is provided. New staff are informed as part of their induction.

Medical reviews are carried out at the beginning of each academic year. Parents are asked to confirm medical conditions and whether medication is required in school. Care plans are updated and reviewed at this time also but can also be updated at any time during the year.

## 22. DAY TRIPS, RESIDENTIAL VISITS AND SPORTING ACTIVITIES

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

Prior to an activity-taking place, the school conducts a visit risk assessment, which identifies what reasonable adjustments should be taken to enable pupils with medical conditions to participate. In addition to a risk assessment, advice is sought from pupils, parents/carers and relevant medical professionals.

The school will arrange for adjustments to be made for all pupils to participate, except where evidence from a clinician, such as a GP, indicates that this is not possible.

## 23. UNACCEPTABLE PRACTICE

The school will never:

- Assume that pupils with the same condition require the same treatment.
- Prevent pupils from easily accessing their inhalers and medication.
- Ignore the views of the pupil and/or their parents/carers.
- 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 IHC plan.
- Send an unwell pupil to the school office alone or with an unsuitable escort.
- Penalise pupils with medical conditions for their attendance record, where the absences relate to their condition.
- Make parents/carers feel obliged or forced to attend school to administer medication or provide medical support, including for toilet issues. The school will ensure that no parent/carer is made to feel that they have to give up working because the school is failing to support their child's needs.
- Create barriers to children 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

## 24. LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY

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

The school holds an insurance policy with policy provider covering liability relating to the administration of medication. The policy has the following requirements:

All staff must have undertaken appropriate training.

The school holds an insurance policy with policy provider covering healthcare procedures. The policy has the following requirements:

All staff must have undertaken appropriate training.

All staff providing such support are provided access to the insurance policies.

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.

## 25. COMPLAINTS

Parents/carers 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 procedure.

If the issue remains unresolved, the complainant has the right to make a formal complaint to the DfE.

Parents/carers and pupils are free to take independent legal advice and bring formal proceedings if they consider they have legitimate grounds to do so.

## 26. DEFIBRILLATORS

The school does not have a defibrillator.

## 27. POLICY REVIEW

This policy is reviewed every year by the named governor, school nurse and the Head teacher.

The scheduled review date for this policy is September 2020

### FORM AM1 - REQUEST FOR RIVERDALE PRIMARY TO ADMINISTER MEDICATION

### **RIVERDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Name of child:	Year:	
Name of medication:		
<b><u>PLEASE COMPLETE ALL RELEVANT SECTIONS.</u></b>		
Has the medication: a) Been prescribed by a doctor? If yes, go to Section A. b) Been bought over the counter at the pharmacy or supermarket? If yes, go to Section B.		
<b>Section A – Prescribed Medication</b> On the medication:	YES	NO
1) Is there written evidence that the medicines/tablets to be administered have been prescribed by a doctor?		
Does the container of the medicine or tablets have a label which give:		
<input type="checkbox"/> The name of the prescribing person i.e. the doctor?		
<input type="checkbox"/> The name of the pupil?		
<input type="checkbox"/> The name of the medicine/tablets?		
<input type="checkbox"/> The amount to be administered?		
<input type="checkbox"/> The time of administration i.e. 3 or 4 times a day <b>Please also let us know what time of day your child will require the medication.</b>		
2) Has written authorisation been obtained from the parent/guardian for the medicine/tablets to be administered to the pupil?		
Does the parent's written authorisation cover:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Medicine		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tablets		



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THIS SECTION IS TO BE FILLED IN BY THE MEMBER OF STAFF ADMINISTERING THE MEDICATION

Name of member of staff	DATE	TIME	Name of member of staff	DATE	TIME

**Notes:** (Please use this space to record any child's refusal take the medication, side effects that have been noted and reported to parents etc.)

### DISPOSAL OF MEDICATION

It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to dispose of medication. In the event that the parent/carer fails to collect the medication from school for disposal, the medication should handed over to a local Pharmacy for them to dispose of.

	Date:
Name of person disposing of medication:	
If handing over to a pharmacy - name & address of Pharmacy.	