



POLICY FOR SUPPORTING PUPILS WITH MEDICAL NEEDS

**Policy Adopted by Governing Body: October 2020
Date for next Review: October 2021**

Policy for supporting pupils with medical needs

Skelton Primary School is an inclusive community that welcomes and supports pupils with medical conditions. This school provides all pupils with any medical condition, the same opportunities as others at school.

We will help to ensure that they can:

- be healthy
- stay safe
- enjoy and achieve
- make a positive contribution
- achieve economic wellbeing once they leave school.

The school makes 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:

- understand that certain medical conditions are debilitating and potentially life threatening, particularly if poorly managed or misunderstood.
- understand the importance of medication and care being taken as directed by healthcare professionals and parents.
- understand the medical conditions that affect pupils at this school. Staff receive training on the impact medical conditions can have on pupils.

The named member of school staff responsible for this medical conditions policy and its implementation is:

Hannah Smithson, who works in partnership with the Trust SENCOs Sarah Cope and Kirsty Mills.

Our policy describes the essential criteria for how we can meet the needs of children and young people with long-term medical conditions.

Skelton Primary School is an inclusive community that supports and welcomes pupils with medical conditions.

This school is welcoming and supportive of pupils with medical conditions. It provides children with medical conditions with the same opportunities and access to activities (both school based and out-of-school) as other pupils. 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.

- We listen to the views of pupils and parents.
- Pupils and parents feel confident in the care they receive from this school and that the level of care meets their needs.

- Staff understand the medical conditions of pupils at this school and that they may be serious, adversely affect a child's quality of life and impact on their ability to learn.
- All staff understand their duty of care to children and young people and know what to do in the event of an emergency.
- The whole school and local health community understand and support the medical conditions policy.
- This school understands that children with the same medical condition will not all have the same needs.

The school recognises that duties in the Children and Families Act (England only), the Equality Act (England, Wales and Scotland) and the Disability Discrimination Act (Northern Ireland only) relate to children with disability or medical conditions and are anticipatory.

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

Pupils, parents, relevant local healthcare staff, and other external stakeholders are informed of and reminded about the medical conditions policy through regular training and meetings with professionals around individual pupil conditions.

All children with a life threatening/ complex medical condition have an individual healthcare plan (IHP).

This is drawn up with support and guidance from healthcare professionals (ideally a specialist) the child (if appropriate) their parent/carer and relevant school staff.

An IHP details exactly what care a child needs in school, when they need it and who is going to give it.

It should also include information on the impact any health condition may have on a child's learning, behaviour or classroom performance.

All staff understand and are trained in what to do in an emergency for children with medical conditions at this school.

All school staff, including temporary or supply staff, are aware of the medical conditions at this school and understand their duty of care to pupils in an emergency.

All staff receive training in what to do in an emergency and this is refreshed at least once a year.

A child's IHP should, explain what help they need in an emergency. The IHP will accompany a pupil should they need to attend hospital. Parental permission will be sought and recorded in the IHP for sharing the IHP within emergency care settings.

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 a variety of medical training annually

If a pupil needs to attend hospital, a member of staff (preferably known to the pupil) will stay with them until a parent arrives, or accompany a child taken to hospital by ambulance. When hospital treatment is required, the injury is not life threatening and parents or emergency contacts are unable to attend immediately, trained first aiders will take pupils to hospital with an additional member of staff.

This school has clear guidance on providing care and support and administering medication at school.

Skelton Primary School understands the importance of medication being taken and care received as detailed in the pupil's IHP.

- We will make sure that there are more than one members of staff who has been trained to administer the medication and meet the care needs of an individual child.
- We will ensure that there are sufficient numbers 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.
- This school will not give medication (prescription or non-prescription) to a child without a parent's written consent except in exceptional circumstances.
- This school will make sure that a trained member of staff is available to accompany a pupil with a medical condition on an off-site visit, including overnight stays.
- Parents understand that they should let the school know immediately if their child's needs change.

Skelton Primary School has clear 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 is readily available wherever the child is in the school and on off-site activities, and is not locked away. Pupils may carry their emergency medication with them if they wish/this is appropriate.
- Pupils may carry their own medication/equipment, or they should know exactly where to access it.
- We will make sure that all medication is stored safely, and that pupils with medical conditions know where they are at all times and how to access to them.
- We will store medication that is in date and labelled in its original container where possible, in accordance with its instructions. The exception to this is insulin, which though must still be in date, will generally be supplied in an insulin injector pen or a pump.
- Parents are asked to collect all medications/equipment at the end of the school term, and to provide new and in-date medication at the start of each term.
- This school disposes of needles and other sharps in line with local policies. Sharps boxes are kept securely at school and will accompany a child on off-site visits. They are collected and disposed of in line with local authority procedures.

Skelton Primary School has clear guidance about record keeping.

- Parents at this school are asked if their child has any medical conditions on the enrolment form.
- We use an IHP to record the support an individual pupil needs around their medical condition. The IHP is developed with the pupil (where appropriate), parent, school staff, specialist nurse (where appropriate) and relevant healthcare services.
- The school has a centralised register of IHPs, and an identified member of staff has the responsibility for this register.
- IHPs are regularly reviewed, at least every year or whenever the pupil's needs change.
- The pupil (where appropriate), parents, specialist nurse (where appropriate) and relevant healthcare services hold a copy of the IHP. Other school staff are made aware of and have access to the IHP for the pupils in their care.
- We make sure that the pupil's confidentiality is protected and that we seek permission from parents before sharing any medical information with any other party.
- Staff meet with the pupil (where appropriate), parent, specialist nurse (where appropriate) and relevant healthcare services prior to any overnight or extended day visit to discuss and make a plan for any extra care requirements that may be needed. This is recorded in the pupil's IHP which accompanies them on the visit
- We keep an accurate record of all medication administered, including the dose, time, date and supervising staff.
- The school makes sure that all staff providing support to a pupil and other relevant teams have received suitable training and ongoing support, to make sure that they have 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 specialist nurse/school nurse/other suitably qualified healthcare professional will confirm their competence, and we keep an up-to-date record of all training undertaken and by whom.

Skelton Primary School ensures that the whole school environment is inclusive and favourable to pupils 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 pupils with medical conditions and pupils are consulted to ensure this accessibility. This school is also committed to an accessible physical environment for out-of-school activities.
- Staff ensure the needs of pupils with medical conditions are adequately considered to ensure their involvement in structured and unstructured activities, extended school activities and residential visits.
- All staff are aware of the potential social problems that pupils 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.

- The school understands the importance of all pupils 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 pupils should not be forced to take part in activities if they are unwell. They should also be aware of pupils who have been advised to avoid/take special precautions during activity, and the potential triggers for a pupil's medical condition when exercising and how to minimise these.
- Staff make sure that pupils have the appropriate medication/equipment/food with them during physical activity.
- We ensure that pupils 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.
- Staff understand that frequent absences, or symptoms, such as limited concentration and frequent tiredness, may be due to a pupil's medical condition. This school will not penalise pupils for their attendance if their absences relate to their medical condition.
- We will refer pupils with medical conditions who are finding it difficult to keep up educationally to the SENCO/ Special Educational Needs Advisor who will liaise with the pupil (where appropriate), parent and the pupil's healthcare professional.
- Staff carry out risk assessments before any out-of-school visit. The needs of pupils with medical conditions are considered during this process and plans are put in place for any adjustments, additional medication, equipment or support that may be required.

Where a child is returning to school following a period of hospital education or alternative provision (including home tuition), we will work with the local authority and education provider to ensure that the child receives the support they need to reintegrate effectively.

- The school works in partnership with all relevant parties including the pupil (where appropriate), parent, school's governing body, all school staff, catering staff, employers and healthcare professionals to ensure that the policy is planned, implemented and maintained successfully.

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 pupil (where appropriate), parent, school's governing body, all school staff, catering staff, employers and healthcare professionals to ensure that the policy is planned, implemented and maintained successfully.