

# ST TERESA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

*A Christ-centred school which aims for the best for everyone*

## Medical Needs in School Policy

### **INTRODUCTION**

The range of medical needs found in schools is more diverse than in previous generations. It is no longer unusual for learners with complex health needs to attend any type of school or college.

New technologies and treatments have made it possible for almost all children to be able to attend their local schools with their peers. This now includes learners with life-limiting conditions, those with mental health conditions and those who are reliant upon medical technologies to assist with their breathing, mobility or other aspects of life.

On 1 September 2014 a new duty came into force for governing bodies and proprietors of academies to make arrangements to support learners at school with medical conditions. The new regulations are set out in 'Supporting learners at school with medical conditions' (DfE).

In addition:

- The new Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Code of Practice (Sept 2014) includes mental health as a formal category of need for the first time.
- Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on governing bodies of maintained schools, proprietors of academies and management committees of PRUs to make arrangements for supporting learners at their school with medical conditions.

This policy sets out how St Teresa's Catholic Primary School intends to include and support learners already on roll and our readiness to welcome new learners with diverse needs in the future.

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School is an inclusive community that aims to support and welcome learners with health needs, including those with diagnosed medical conditions.

We aim to provide all learners with all forms of medical conditions and health needs the same opportunities as others at school.

---

This school's medical conditions policy is drawn up in consultation with a wide-range of local key stakeholders within both the school and health settings.

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

All staff understand what to do in an emergency for the most common serious medical conditions at this school. Key staff are specifically trained for this.

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

All staff understand what best practice and unacceptable practice is regarding learners with medical conditions.

This school has clear guidance on the administration, storage and record keeping of medication at school.

This school ensures that the whole school environment is inclusive and favorable to learners with medical conditions. This includes the physical environment, as well as social, sporting and educational activities.

This school ensures the needs of learners with medical conditions are adequately considered to ensure they have involvement in structured and unstructured social activities and full access to extended school activities such as school discos, breakfast club, school productions, after school clubs and residential visits.

When the school is made aware of the common triggers that can make common medical conditions worse or can bring on an emergency, the school will work to reduce or eliminate health and safety risks.

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

Full health and safety risk assessments are carried out on all out-of-school activities before they are approved, including work experience placements and residential visits, taking into account the needs of learners with medical conditions.

The school, via senior management, reviews any medical emergencies and incidents to see how they could have been avoided. Appropriate changes to this school's policy and procedures are implemented after each review.

In evaluating the policy, this school seeks feedback on the effectiveness and acceptability of the medical conditions policy with a wide-range of key stakeholders within the school and health settings.

---

These key stakeholders include:

- learners
- parents
- school nurse and/or school healthcare professionals
- Headteacher
- teachers
- Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO)
- first aiders
- all other school staff
- school governors

The views of learners with various medical conditions are actively sought and considered central to the evaluation process.

### **COMMUNICATION WITH OTHERS**

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

**Children** requiring medication are reminded about their needs by their responsible adult providing support in school are informed and regularly reminded about the medical conditions policy:

**Parents, carers and families** are informed and reminded about the medical conditions policy:

- in the school's prospectus which signposts the policy
- at the start of the school year when communication is sent out about Healthcare Plans
- when their child is enrolled as a new pupil
- via the school's website, where it is available all year round

**School staff** are informed and reminded about the medical conditions policy:

- through information handed out at the first staff meeting of the school year and before Healthcare Plans are distributed to parents
- at scheduled medical conditions training if appropriate
- through the key principles of the policy being displayed in the staffroom
- through the induction training for all staff and volunteers
- all supply and temporary staff are informed of the policy and their responsibilities where appropriate

Policy approved Spring 2016

Review date Spring 2017

This policy has the full ownership of staff and governors of  
St Teresa's Catholic Primary School