

# Supporting Students with Medical Needs

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## Aims of this policy:

- UpHolland High School is an inclusive community that aims to support and welcome students with medical conditions.
- UpHolland High School aims to provide all students with medical conditions the same opportunities as others at school.

## POLICY STATEMENTS

- Up Holland High School recognizes that Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on the Governing Body to make arrangements for supporting students at their school with medical conditions.
- Up Holland High School's 'Supporting Students with Medical Conditions' Policy has been drawn up in consultation with a wide range of key stakeholders both within the school and health settings.
- All staff understand that some of the medical conditions affecting our students could impact on quality of life and may be life threatening, particularly if poorly managed or misunderstood.
- All staff understand and are trained in what to do in an emergency for the most common serious medical conditions at this school.
- All staff understand and are trained in the school's general emergency procedures.
- Up Holland High School has clear guidance on the administration and storage of medication.
- Up Holland High School has clear guidance about record keeping.
- All staff understand the common medical conditions that affect children at this school. Staff receive training on the impact medical conditions can have on students.
- Up Holland High School ensures that the whole school environment is inclusive and favourable to students with medical conditions. This includes the physical environment, as well as educational, social and sporting activities.
- All staff show an understanding of how medical conditions impact on a student's ability to learn and seek to enhance their confidence and promote self-care.
- Up Holland High School understands the importance of all students taking part in sports, games and activities. Teachers will make appropriate adjustments to make physical activity accessible to all.
- The school is aware of the common triggers that can make medical conditions worse or can bring on an emergency. The school actively works towards reducing these health and safety risks.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

- Collaborative working arrangements are in place to enable the stakeholders below to work in partnership to ensure that students' needs are met effectively.

### **Governing Body must:**

- Ensure arrangements are made to support students with medical conditions in school, including making sure that this policy is fully implemented.

**Headteacher must:**

- Ensure that the school's policy is developed and implemented with all stakeholders.
- Ensure that all staff are aware of the policy and understand their role in its implementation.
- Ensure that all appropriate staff are aware of a student's condition.
- Ensure that appropriate staff are trained to implement the policy and deliver Individual Healthcare Plans, including in emergency situations.
- Ensure that school staff are appropriately insured to support students.
- Devolve responsibility for implementation of the policy to the Head of Student Services in charge of Safeguarding.
- Ensure that all educational visits are appropriately risk assessed and that the medical needs of students participating have been identified and provision is in place.

**Pastoral/SEND staff must:**

- Take responsibility for ensuring individual healthcare plans are devised in partnership with parents and, where appropriate, students.
- Consult the student, parents and the student's healthcare professional to ensure the effect of the student's medical condition on their schoolwork is properly considered.

**School staff must:**

- Be prepared to be asked to support students with medical conditions, including administering medicines.
- Engage with training to achieve the necessary level of competency before taking responsibility to support students with medical conditions.
- Know what to do and respond accordingly when aware that a student with a medical condition needs help.
- Be aware of the potential for students with medical conditions to have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Students with medical conditions who are finding it difficult to keep up with their studies to be referred to the SENDCO/Pastoral Manager or Head of Year.

**Business Support Manager must:**

- Brief supply teachers on relevant students' medical needs.

**School First Aiders must:**

- Ensure medicines are kept securely with clear access.
- Log medical emergencies.
- Log medicines taken by a student within school time.

### **Other healthcare professionals, including GPs and paediatricians, must:**

- Advise school when a child has been identified as having a medical condition that will require school support.
- Provide advice on developing Individual Healthcare Plans and support schools with particular conditions when necessary.
- **Parents must:**
  - Notify school on enrolment and provide sufficient and up to date information about their child's medical needs.
  - Engage in the development and review of their child's Individual Healthcare Plan.
  - Carry out actions agreed in Individual Healthcare Plan, such as provide medicines and ensure they, or another nominated adult, are contactable at all times.

### **Students must:**

- Be fully involved in discussions about their medical support needs and contribute as much as possible to the development of, and comply with, their Individual Healthcare Plan.
- Endeavour to develop independence in managing their own medical needs where appropriate.

## **PROCEDURES AND PROCESSES**

### **Staff training and support**

- All Staff are aware of the most common serious medical conditions and what to do in an emergency. They are provided with training to support a student with medical needs:
  - During induction to the school
  - Through access to Individual Healthcare Plans
  - Via refresher updates from healthcare professionals
- Additionally, school First Aiders are appropriately trained and can provide advice and guidance to staff, parents and students.
- In an emergency situation, school staff are required under common law duty of care to act like any reasonably prudent parent. This may include administering medication.
- If a student needs to be taken to hospital, a member of staff will always accompany him/her and will stay with him/her until a parent or carer arrives. A copy of the student's Individual Healthcare Plan will be sent to the emergency care setting with the student.

### **The student's role in managing his/her own medical needs:**

- Wherever competent to, the school actively seeks that students take responsibility for managing their own medicines and procedures.
- Where this is not possible, First Aiders will supervise the student when taking medicines and manage procedures, aiding the student to develop greater independence.
- Whilst on school visits / trips, the protocol in the Individual Healthcare Plan will be adhered to.

### **Managing Medicines on School Premises**

#### Administration of emergency medication

- All students have access to their emergency medication which is stored in a locked cabinet in the main school office or staff room.
- All students are encouraged to carry and administer their own emergency medication (in the form of epi-pens and inhalers), when it has been determined that they are able to take responsibility for doing so. All students carry their emergency medication with them at all times, except if they are controlled drugs as defined in the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971. This is also the arrangement on any off-site or residential visits.
- All use of medication defined as a controlled drug, even if the student can administer the medication him/herself, is done under the supervision of staff.
- There is no legal duty for any member of staff to administer medication unless they have been specifically contracted to do so. Staff may supervise the taking of prescribed and non-prescribed medication to students under the age of 16 with the written consent of the student's parent.
- All school staff have been informed through training that they are required, under common law duty of care, to act like any reasonably prudent parent in an emergency situation.
- If a child's medication changes or is discontinued, or the dose or administration method changes, parents should notify the school immediately.
- If we become aware that a student has refused their medication, parents are informed as soon as possible.
- Off-site visits are fully risk assessed and staff are made aware of any students with medical conditions on the visit. They receive information about the type of condition, what to do in an emergency and any other additional support necessary, including any additional medication or equipment needed.
- If a student misuses medication, either their own or another student's, their parents are informed as soon as possible. These students are subject to the school's usual disciplinary procedures.

### **Storage of medication at school**

#### Emergency Medication

- Most students at this school carry, and securely keep inhalers and epi-pens. They are reminded to ensure that their emergency medication is with them at all times. Back-up medication is available in the main office/staff room/attendance office.
- Where a student is not yet able to self-manage and carry his/her own emergency medication, he/she knows where to access the emergency medication.

#### Non-Emergency Medication

- All non-emergency medication is kept in a secure office; in a cupboard in a cool dry place. Students with medical conditions know where their medication is stored and how to access it.
- Staff ensure that medication is only accessible to those for whom it is prescribed.
- The Office Manager ensures the correct storage of medication at school.
- All controlled drugs are kept in a locked cupboard, paying particular note to temperature, and only named staff have access, even if students normally administer the medication themselves.
- The Office Manager checks and logs the expiry dates for all medication stored at school.
- An up-to-date list of members of staff who have agreed to administer medication and have received the relevant training is kept in school.
- All emergency and non-emergency medication brought in to school must be clearly labelled wherever possible, in its original containers, with the student's name, the name and dose of the medication and the frequency of dose, expiry date and the prescriber's instructions. This includes all medication that students carry themselves.
- All refrigerated medication is stored in an airtight container and is clearly labelled. The refrigerator used for the storage of medication is located in the main office.
- It is the parents' responsibility to ensure new and in date medication comes into school on the first day of the new academic year.

- An accurate record of each occasion an individual student is given or supervised taking medication is kept. Details of the supervising staff member, student, dose, date and time are recorded.

#### **Safe Disposal**

- Students will be given out of date medication to take home, with a note to parents, to dispose of safely; where this is not possible it will be disposed of by school.
- Sharps boxes are used for the disposal of needles. Parents obtain sharps boxes from the child's GP or paediatrician on prescription. All sharps boxes in this school are stored in a locked room unless alternative safe and secure arrangements are put in place on a case- by-case basis.
- If a sharps box is required for an off-site or residential visit, a named member of staff is responsible for its safe storage and return to a local pharmacy, to school or to the student's parent.

#### **Record Keeping/ Enrolment**

- Parents are asked if their child has any health conditions/issues on the student data collection form; this information is logged on SIMS/Synergy.

#### **Individual Healthcare Plans**

- The Individual Healthcare Plan records important details about individual student's medical needs at school, their triggers, signs, symptoms, medication and other treatment.
- Parents, healthcare professionals and students with a medical condition are asked to fill out the student's Individual Healthcare Plan together. Parents then return the completed forms to the school.
- This school ensures that a relevant member of school staff is also present, if required, to help draw up an Individual Healthcare Plan for students with complex healthcare or educational needs.

#### **School Healthcare Plan Register**

- Individual Healthcare Plans are used to create a centralised register of students with medical needs and are kept electronically on the school's Synergy system.
- Parents are reminded to update their child's Individual Healthcare Plan if their child has a medical emergency, if there have been changes to their symptoms (getting better or

worse), or when their medication and treatments change.

- Where a parent or medical professional makes the school aware of a change to a student's medical condition, a meeting will be called to develop a new care plan.
- All staff have access to the Individual Healthcare Plans of students in their care.
- All staff are responsible for the protection of student confidentiality.
- Before sharing any medical information with any other party, such as when a student takes part in a work experience placement, permission is sought from parents.

#### Educational Visits / Education Off-Site

- Risk assessments are carried out by the school prior to any out-of-school visit and medical conditions are considered during this process. Factors considered include: how all students will be able to access the activities proposed, how routine and emergency medication will be stored and administered, and where help can be obtained in an emergency.
- Parents are sent a residential visit form to be completed and returned to school shortly before their child leaves for an overnight stay. This requests up-to-date information about the student's current medical condition and how it is to be managed whilst away.
- Staff on educational visits and out-of-school hours activities are fully briefed on students' individual medical needs. They will have access to the Individual Healthcare Plan and any necessary medication / medical equipment for the duration of the visit.
- For all residential visits, a member of staff is appointed as the designated first aider and the appropriate first aid equipment will be taken on the trip.
- Risk assessments are carried out before students undertake a work experience or off-site educational placement. It is the school's responsibility to ensure that the placement is suitable and accessible for a student with medical needs. Permission is sought from the student and his/her parents before any medical information is shared with an employer or other education provider.

#### Complaints

- Should parents / students / stakeholders be dissatisfied with the support provided, they should discuss their concerns directly with school. If, for whatever reason, this does not resolve the issue, they may make a formal complaint via the school's complaints procedure (see Complaints Policy).

- **Glossary of Terms**

Controlled Drug- Some prescription medicines are controlled under the Misuse of Drugs legislation. These medicines are called controlled medicines or controlled drugs; for example, morphine. Stricter legal controls apply to controlled drugs to prevent them being misused, obtained illegally or causing harm.

If you need to speak to anyone in school in relation to this policy, please contact the school and ask for one of the following members of staff:

M.Potter(SENCO)- [m.potter@upholland.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:m.potter@upholland.lancs.sch.uk)

A.Williams (Associate Assistant Head and Line Manager for SEN ) -  
[a.williams@upholland.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:a.williams@upholland.lancs.sch.uk)

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