

# **St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Wallasey**



## **Managing Medicines in School Policy**

**Mission Statement:**  
*“Love one another as I have loved you”*

**School Values:**

<b><i>Service</i></b>
<b><i>Justice</i></b>
<b><i>Love</i></b>

**School Vision:**

**We seek to build a welcoming, caring community of faith, where we love and serve our children to support them to gain all the necessary spiritual, academic, personal and social skills to succeed in our local and global community.**

**Adopted by Governors: November 2025**

**To be reviewed: Autumn 2026**

# Contents

Statement of intent

1. Legal Framework	3
2. Roles and responsibilities	4
3. Equal opportunities	5
4. Being notified that a child has a medical condition	5
5. Individual healthcare plans	5
6. Managing medicines	6
7. Unacceptable Practice	8
8. Emergency Procedures	8
9. Training	8
10. Record Keeping	8
11. Liability and Indemnity	8
12. Complaints	8
13. Monitoring arrangements	9
14. Communication	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
Appendix 1: Being notified a child has a medical condition	10
Appendix 2: Administration of Medicines (Example).....	11
Appendix 3: Individual Health Care Plan.....	13

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## Statement of intent

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is committed to providing medical support to all our children/staff with medical conditions to facilitate access to education and the workplace and ensure equal opportunities.

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Pupils, staff and parents understand how our school will support pupils with medical conditions
- Pupils with medical conditions are properly supported to allow them to access the same education as other pupils, including school trips and sporting activities

The governing board will implement this policy by:

- Making sure sufficient staff are suitably trained
- Making staff aware of pupil's condition, where appropriate
- Making sure there are cover arrangements to ensure someone is always available to support pupils with medical conditions
- Providing supply teachers with appropriate information about the policy and relevant pupils
- Developing and monitoring individual healthcare plans (IHPs)

**The person with responsibility for implementing this policy is the Headteacher.**

## 1. Legal Framework

This policy meets the requirements under Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014, which places a duty on governing boards to make arrangements for supporting pupils at their school with medical conditions.

It is also based on the Department for Education's statutory guidance: Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions.

The policy is implemented in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Health and Safety Policy
- Medical emergency and First Aid Policy
- Data Retention Policy
- Behavioural Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- SEN Information Report and Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives
- Lone Working Policy
- Educational Visits and School Trips Policy
- Complaints procedure

## 2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing Body is responsible for:-

- making arrangements to support pupils with medical conditions.
- ensuring that sufficient staff have received suitable training and are competent before they are responsible for supporting children with medical conditions.

The headteacher is responsible for:-

- making sure all staff are aware of this policy and understand their role in its implementation
- ensuring that there is a sufficient number of trained staff available to implement this policy and deliver against all individual healthcare plans (IHPs), including in contingency and emergency situations
- taking overall responsibility for the development of IHPs
- making sure that school staff are appropriately insured and aware that they are insured to support pupils in this way
- contacting the school nursing service in the case of any pupil who has a medical condition that may require support at school, but who has not yet been brought to the attention of the school nurse
- ensuring that systems are in place for obtaining information about a child's medical needs and that this information is kept up to date

Staff are responsible for:-

- supporting pupils with medical conditions during school hours, it is not the sole responsibility of one person. Any member of staff may be asked to provide support to pupils with medical conditions, although they may not be required to do so. This includes the administration of medicines.
- achieving the necessary level of competency before taking on the responsibility to support pupils with medical conditions.
- knowing what to do and respond accordingly when they become aware that a pupil with a medical condition needs help.
- Accurately recording any medication received on the school system – Medical Tracker

Teaching staff are responsible for:-

- ensuring they take pupil medical needs into consideration when planning lessons/activities/trips etc.

Parents are responsible for:-

- providing the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs
- being involved in the development and review of their child's IHP and may be involved in its drafting
- carrying out any action they have agreed to as part of the implementation of the IHP e.g. provide medicines and equipment

Pupils with medical conditions are responsible for:-

- providing information about their condition and how it affects them. They should be fully involved in discussions about their medical support so they can contribute as much as possible.
- Complying with their IHPs

School nurses and other health care professional are responsible for:-

- notifying the school when a pupil has been identified as having a medical condition that will require support in school. This will be before the pupil starts school, wherever possible.
- liaising with each other and notifying the school of any pupils identified as having a medical condition.

### **3. Equal opportunities**

Our school is clear about the need to actively support pupils with medical conditions to participate in school trips and visits, or in sporting activities, and not prevent them from doing so.

The school will consider what reasonable adjustments need to be made to enable these pupils to participate fully and safely on school trips, visits and sporting activities.

Risk assessments will be carried out so that planning arrangements take account of any steps needed to ensure that pupils with medical conditions are included. In doing so, pupils, their parents and any relevant healthcare professionals will be consulted.

### **4. Being notified that a child has a medical condition**

When we are notified that a pupil has a medical condition, the process outlined below will be followed to decide whether the pupil requires an IHP.

We will make every effort to ensure that arrangements are put into place within 2 weeks, or by the beginning of the relevant term for pupils who are new to our school.

*See Appendix 1.*

### **5. Individual healthcare plans**

The headteacher has overall responsibility for the development of IHPs for pupils with medical conditions. This has been delegated to the SENCO.

Plans will be reviewed at least annually, or earlier if there is evidence that the pupil's needs have changed.

Plans will be developed with the pupil's best interests in mind and will set out:

- What needs to be done
- When
- By whom

Not all pupils with a medical condition will require an IHP. It will be agreed with a healthcare professional and the parents when an IHP would be inappropriate or disproportionate. This will be based on evidence. If there is not a consensus, the headteacher will make the final decision.

Plans will be drawn up in partnership with the school, parents and a relevant healthcare professional, such as the school nurse, specialist or paediatrician, who can best advise on the pupil's specific needs. The pupil will be involved wherever appropriate.

IHPs will be linked to, or become part of, any statement of special educational needs (SEN) or education, health and care (EHC) plan. If a pupil has SEN but does not have a statement or EHC plan, the SEN will be mentioned in the IHP.

The level of detail in the plan will depend on the complexity of the child's condition and how much support is needed. The governing body and the Headteacher/SENCO will consider the following when deciding what information to record on IHPs:

- The medical condition, its triggers, signs, symptoms and treatments
- The pupil's resulting needs, including medication (dose, side effects and storage) and other treatments, time, facilities, equipment, testing, access to food and drink where this is used to manage their condition, dietary requirements and environmental issues, e.g. crowded corridors, travel time between lessons
- Specific support for the pupil's educational, social and emotional needs. For example, how absences will be managed, requirements for extra time to complete exams, use of rest periods or additional support in catching up with lessons, counselling sessions
- The level of support needed, including in emergencies. If a pupil is self-managing their medication, this will be clearly stated with appropriate arrangements for monitoring
- Who will provide this support, their training needs, expectations of their role and confirmation of proficiency to provide support for the pupil's medical condition from a healthcare professional, and cover arrangements for when they are unavailable
- Who in the school needs to be aware of the pupil's condition and the support required
- Arrangements for written permission from parents and the headteacher for medication to be administered by a member of staff, or self-administered by the pupil during school hours
- Separate arrangements or procedures required for school trips or other school activities outside of the normal school timetable that will ensure the pupil can participate, e.g. risk assessments
- Where confidentiality issues are raised by the parent/pupil, the designated individuals to be entrusted with information about the pupil's condition
- What to do in an emergency, including who to contact, and contingency arrangements

## 6. Managing medicines

Prescription and non-prescription medicines will only be administered at school:

- when it would be detrimental to the pupil's health or school attendance not to do so **and**
- where we have parents' written consent

**The only exception to this is where the medicine has been prescribed to the pupil without the knowledge of the parents.**

Pupils under 16 will not be given medicine containing aspirin unless prescribed by a doctor.

Anyone giving a pupil any medication (for example, for pain relief) will first check maximum dosages and when the previous dosage was taken. Parents will always be informed.

The school will only accept prescribed medicines that are:

- In-date
- Labelled
- Provided in the original container, as dispensed by the pharmacist, and include instructions for administration, dosage and storage

The school will accept insulin that is inside an insulin pen or pump rather than its original container, but it must be in date.

All medicines will be stored safely, **in a locked cabinet**. Pupils will be informed about where their medicines are at all times and be able to access them immediately. Medicines and devices such as asthma inhalers, blood glucose testing meters and adrenaline pens will always be readily available to pupils and not locked away.

Medicines will be returned to parents to arrange for safe disposal when no longer required.

Controlled drugs are prescription medicines that are controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001 and subsequent amendments, such as morphine or methadone.

Controlled drugs are kept in a secure cupboard in the school office and only named staff have access.

Controlled drugs will be easily accessible in an emergency and a record of any doses used and the amount held will be kept and countersigned as doses are administered.

Pupils who are competent will be encouraged to take responsibility for managing their own medicines and procedures but will be overseen by an adult. E.g. taking their own inhaler. This will be discussed with parents and it will be reflected in their IHPs.

Staff will not force a pupil to take a medicine or carry out a necessary procedure if they refuse but will follow the procedure agreed in the IHP and inform parents so that an alternative option can be considered, if necessary.

## **7. Unacceptable practice**

School staff should use their discretion and judge each case individually with reference to the pupil's IHP, but it is generally not acceptable to:

- Prevent pupils from easily accessing their inhalers and medication, and administering their medication when and where necessary
- Assume that every pupil with the same condition requires the same treatment
- Ignore the views of the pupil or their parents
- Ignore medical evidence or opinion (although this may be challenged)
- Send children with medical conditions home frequently for reasons associated with their medical condition or prevent them from staying for normal school activities, including lunch, unless this is specified in their IHPs
- If the pupil becomes ill, send them to the school office or medical room unaccompanied or with someone unsuitable
- Penalise pupils for their attendance record if their absences are related to their medical condition, e.g. hospital appointments
- Prevent pupils from drinking, eating or taking toilet or other breaks whenever they need to in order to manage their medical condition effectively
- Require parents, or otherwise make them feel obliged, to attend school to administer medication or provide medical support to their pupil, including with toileting issues. No parent should have to give up working because the school is failing to support their child's medical needs

- Prevent pupils from participating, or create unnecessary barriers to pupils participating in any aspect of school life, including school trips, e.g. by requiring parents to accompany their child
- Administer, or ask pupils to administer, medicine in school toilets

## **8. Emergency procedures**

Staff will follow the school's normal emergency procedures (for example, calling 999). All pupils' IHPs will clearly set out what constitutes an emergency and will explain what to do.

If a pupil needs to be taken to hospital, staff will stay with the pupil until the parent arrives, or accompany the pupil to hospital by ambulance. See Medical Emergency and First Aid Policy.

## **9. Training**

Staff who are responsible for supporting pupils with medical needs will receive suitable and sufficient training to do so.

The training will be identified during the development or review of IHPs. Staff who provide support to pupils with medical conditions will be included in meetings where this is discussed.

The relevant healthcare professionals will lead on identifying the type and level of training required and will agree this with the headteacher/SENCO. Training will be kept up to date.

Training will:

- be sufficient to ensure that staff are competent and have confidence in their ability to support the pupils
- fulfil the requirements in the IHPs
- help staff to have an understanding of the specific medical conditions they are being asked to deal with, their implications and preventative measures

Healthcare professionals will provide confirmation of the proficiency of staff in a medical procedure, or in providing medication.

All staff will receive training so that they are aware of this policy and understand their role in implementing it, for example, with preventative and emergency measures so they can recognise and act quickly when a problem occurs. This will be provided for new staff during their induction.

## **10. Record keeping**

The governing body will ensure that written records are kept of all medicine administered to pupils. Parents will be informed if their pupil has been unwell at school.

IHPs are kept in a readily accessible place which all staff are aware of.

## **11. Liability and indemnity**

The governing board will ensure that the appropriate level of insurance is in place and appropriately reflects the school's level of risk.

The details of the school's insurance policy are:

We are a member of the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA).

## **12. Complaints**



Parents with a complaint about their child's medical condition should discuss these directly with the headteacher in the first instance. If the headteacher cannot resolve the matter, they will direct parents to the school's complaints procedure.

### **13. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed and approved by the governing body every 3 years.

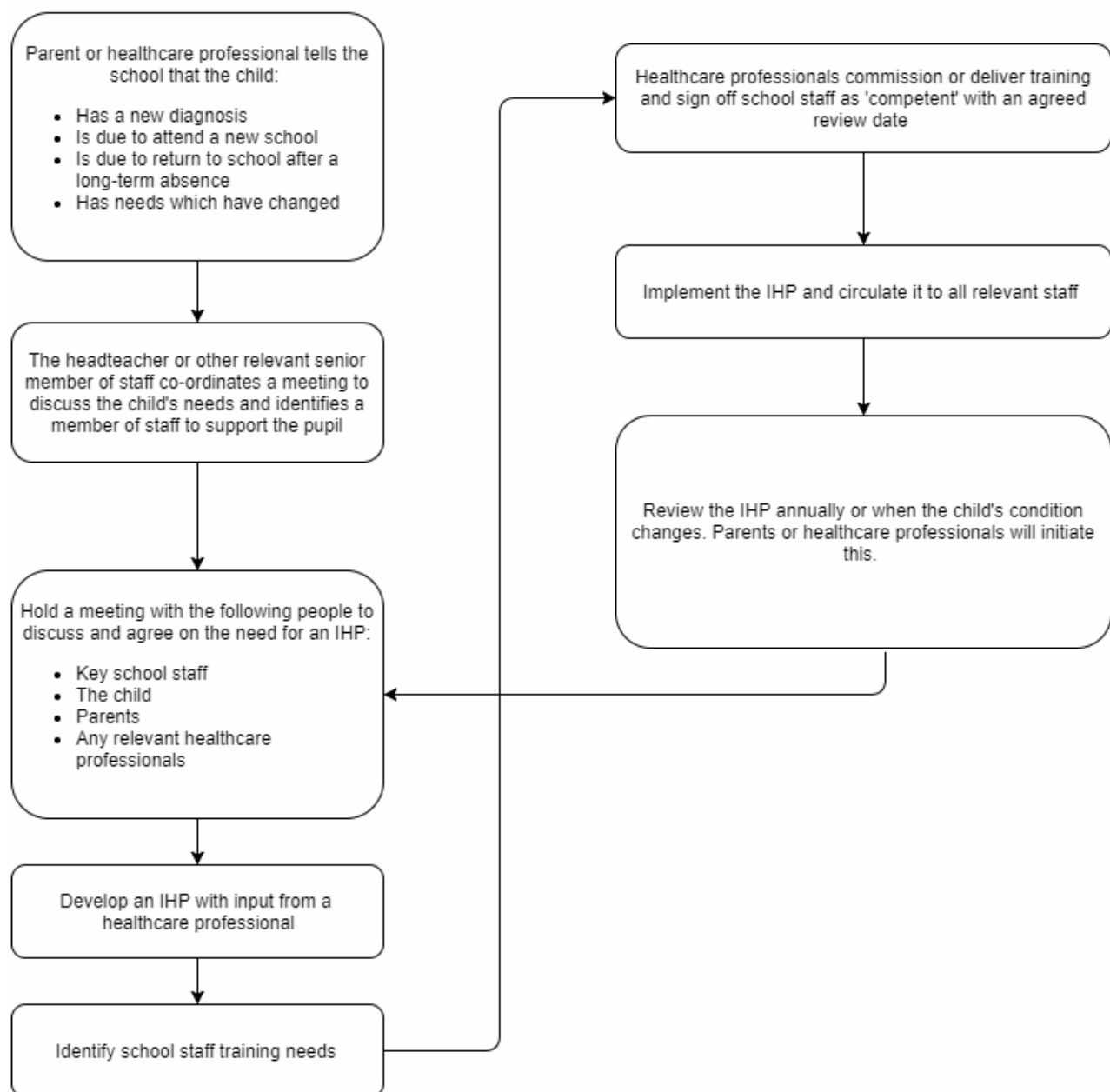
### **14. Communication**

This policy will be made available on the school website.

### **15. Useful websites**

- Additional inhalers. See [www.asthma.org.uk](http://www.asthma.org.uk) (Introduced October 2014 – Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools March 2015)
- Additional Adrenaline Auto-injectors (Epipens). See [www.anaphylaxis.org.uk](http://www.anaphylaxis.org.uk) and [www.sparepensinschools.uk](http://www.sparepensinschools.uk)
- <https://www.anaphylaxis.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Managing-Allergens-in-the-Workplace-A-guide-for-Employers-and-Employees.pdf>
- [www.bsaci.org](http://www.bsaci.org) (ref: the Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017 – from October 2017).
- See DfE Supporting pupils with medical conditions for updated guidance and templates. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions--3>

## **Appendix 1: Being notified a child has a medical condition**



## Appendix 2: Administration of Medicines (Example)

<b>Name</b>		<b>Date of birth</b>	
<b>Address</b>			
<b>GP</b>			
<b>Allergies</b>			

Date	Name of person who brought it in	Name of Medication	Form supplied	Expiry date	Dosage Regime	Quantity of tablets or medication received

## Register of medication administered

Date	Medication	Amount given	Amount left	Administered by		Comments/Action/Side Effects

### Appendix 3: Individual Health Care Plan

This plan relates to the health care needs provided to this school to the child / young person named below in relation to the safe management of the condition above. School staff involved in the day to day care of this child should be made familiar with the contents of this plan so they are aware of when they need to act, and what they and others need to do.

<b>Pupil Name</b>	
<b>Date of Birth</b>	
<b>Class</b>	
<b>Summary description of medical and health complications associated with this condition:</b>	
<b>Emergency Contact details</b>	
<b>Contact 1</b>	
<b>Name</b>	
<b>Relationship</b>	
<b>Contact numbers</b>	
<b>Emergency Contact details</b>	
<b>Contact 2</b>	
<b>Name</b>	
<b>Relationship</b>	
<b>Contact numbers</b>	

#### Emergency care

Please fill in this section if your child has been prescribed emergency medication for managing this condition.

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Name and strength of medication

--

When should the medication be given? How much medication should initially be given?

--

What action should be taken if medication is given

--

Non-Emergency Care of this pupil's condition Likely source, cause or early warning signs associated with this condition that would signal to school staff that something requiring medical help might be about to happen?

--

Any other health conditions to be considered alongside this condition:

--

Description of how this condition affects this child/young person:

--

How long do complications/attacks with this condition usually last?

--

**Medications given at home (please include all medications given)**

Name of medicine	Is this prescribed for this condition?	Strength/Amount or dose given	Times given

**Medication to given in school**

Name of medicine	Is this prescribed for this condition?	Strength/Amount or dose to give	Times to give

**Date Plan Completed**

<b>Signed</b>	
<b>Name</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

**Heath care plan agreed by:**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
Parent/carer		
Healthcare professional		
Member of school staff		

Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring that the school is aware of their child's needs and should update the school as necessary. This care plan will be reviewed yearly or more often if required, it will be shared with staff in school that are involved in the child's care. Copies will be kept in the school office and in the classroom. Parent/carer to have a copy.

Plan reviewed :

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Designation: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ Designation: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Designation: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_