



Supporting Young People with Medical Needs 2023/2024

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Archbishop Oscar Romero

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Stewardship +

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Supporting Young People with Medical Needs

1. Roles and responsibilities

Parents have the prime responsibility for their student's health and are required to provide the College (via the Year Learning Leader/ SENCo/ Family Support Worker) with information about their student's medical condition before they are admitted to the College, or as soon as the student first develops a particular medical need.

In consultation with the family, advice will then be sought from those health professionals involved with the student, in order to determine the level of support needed on a daily basis when their student attends College. This could include:

- a General Practitioner (GP) or Paediatrician
- the College nurse
- a health visitor or a specialist voluntary body
- a mental health practitioner

For those students who attend hospital appointments on a regular basis, special arrangements may also need to be considered.

2. Students with Long Term or Complex Medical Needs

Special Arrangements

Where a student's needs are particularly complex and could affect their ability to access the full curriculum or participate in other areas of College life, the additional, support may be needed. This will be discussed with parents and the student and all details shared with relevant teaching staff. In some cases this might take the form of dedicated adult support, at certain times of the College day. Alternatively, the student's needs could be such that modifications to the learning environment and /or the provision of specialist aids will need to be considered. Every effort will be made to ensure that the student can access a trip and reasonable adjustments will be considered. However if their safety and/or others on the trip is compromised, it may be decided that the student cannot attend.

Parents MUST contact and consult with the College regarding student's access to a particular trip. Only after this consultation will it be determined that a student can access a trip as their needs can be catered for.

Individual Health Care Plans

An Individual Health Care Plan based on an individual risk assessment will be developed for such student, to clarify for staff, parents and the student, the support that will be provided. This will include details of the student's medical condition, any medication, daily care requirements and action to be taken in an emergency, including parents' contact numbers. Those who may need to contribute to an Individual Health Care Plan include:

- The College health service, the student's GP or other health care professionals (depending on the level of support the student needs)
- The Head teacher and key members of the SLT
- SENCo
- Year Learning leader
- Family Support Worker
- The parents / carers (and the student, if appropriate)

- The Form Tutor, Care Assistant or Teaching Assistant
- Support staff who are trained to administer medicines or trained in emergency procedures.

Individual Health Care Plans will only be completed for students where it is deemed necessary and will not be completed for all students with medical needs. The College will agree with parents how often they should jointly review a health care plan. The timing of this will depend on the nature of the student's particular needs. Each student's needs will be assessed individually, as each student varies in their ability to cope with poor health or medical conditions.

Communicating Needs

Information regarding the needs of certain students with particular needs will be made available for staff via the SIMs information system and confidentially stored on the IT network. Details contained within Individual Health Care Plans will be shared with relevant staff. Copies of the Individual Health Care plans will be held within the Medical Room and with the Medical Needs Coordinator. A copy will be stored electronically on the student's SIMs profile.

Staff Training

The College is responsible for ensuring that staff have appropriate training to support students with medical needs. For students with specific needs there will be an information session for staff either in July or September. Where there is a particular need for staff to be trained this will also be arranged. Arrangements are made with appropriate agencies to update staff training on a regular basis. Teaching and Support staff are invited to attend Epilepsy Awareness training annually, and to complete Diabetes and Asthma/EpiPen e-training annually.

Educational Visits

Every effort is made to encourage students with medical needs to participate in safely managed visits. Parents of students participating in educational visits will need to complete the Medical Consent Form (Form C) giving details of all medical/dietary needs. Where there is a particular need parents MUST contact the trip leader and discuss this need and make arrangements for how this need will be met on the visit. Consideration is always given to the adjustments which need to be made to enable student with medical needs to participate fully and safely on visits. Staff supervising excursions should always be aware of any medical needs and relevant emergency procedures. A copy of Individual Health Care Plans should be taken on visits in the event of the information being needed in an emergency. Arrangements for taking any necessary medicines will need to be made and if necessary an additional member of the support staff, a parent or another volunteer might be needed to accompany a particular student.

If there is any concern about whether the College is able to provide for a student's safety, or the safety of other student on a visit, then parents will be consulted and medical advice sought from the College health service or the student's GP.

Residential Trips

Parents of students participating in Residential Trips will need to complete the Medical Consent form giving details of all medical/dietary needs. All medication which needs to be administered during the course of the visit should be handed directly to the tour leader or an appointed member of staff, in accordance with the College's guidelines before leaving the College at the start of the trip. See advice above (Educational Visits) for further necessary procedures.

Sporting Activities

All students with medical conditions will be encouraged to participate as fully as possible in physical activities and extra-curricular sport. For many, physical activity can benefit their overall social, mental and physical health and well-being. Where there is a particular need (highlighted through discussion with appropriate staff) PE / appropriate staff will be sensitive to their individual needs and sufficient flexibility will be incorporated into the lesson planning for all student to be included in ways appropriate to their own abilities. Any restrictions on a student's ability to participate in PE will be recorded in their individual health care plan. This will include a reference to any issues of privacy and dignity for a student with particular needs.

Some students may need to take precautionary measures before or during exercise, and may also need to be allowed immediate access to their medicines such as asthma inhalers, insulin etc.

3. Students with Short – Term Medical Needs

If students are unwell and unable to cope with a busy College day, they should not be sent to College. If they become ill during the day, parents/carers will be contacted by the College office in order that the student can be taken home.

Many students will need to take medicines during the day at some time during their time in College. This will usually be for a short period only, perhaps to finish a course of prescribed antibiotics.

However such medicines should only be brought to College where it would be detrimental to a student's health if it were not administered during the College day.

Parents should inform the College (on the agreed form, 'Request for the College to Give Medication'), available from the College office) about the medicines that their student needs to take and provide details of any further support required. Staff should make sure that this information is the same as that provided by the prescriber.

If the student has any infectious or contagious condition, they should not come to College.

Please see the separate First Aid Policy.