

**GLEBE PRIMARY SCHOOL
UNITED LEARNING ACADEMY**

**Administration of Medicines Policy
2022-2024**

**Updated: Autumn 2022
New Review: Autumn 2024**

Approved by the Local Governing Board on 19th January 2023



Signed by: Mr. James Dempster
Position: Chair of the Local Governing Body

Statement of Intent

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 pupils at their school with medical conditions'. The governing body of Glebe Primary School will ensure that these arrangements fulfil their statutory duties and follow guidance outline in 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions' December 2015'.

Medicines will be administered to enable the inclusion of pupils with medical needs, promote regular attendance and minimise the impact on a pupil's ability to learn. In an emergency all teachers and other staff in charge of children have a common law duty of care to act for the health and safety of a child in their care – this might mean giving medicines or medical care.

Organisation

The governing body will develop policies and procedures to ensure the medical needs of pupils at Glebe Primary School are managed appropriately. They will be supported with the implementation of these arrangements by the Head teacher and school staff.

The Lead for Managing Medicines at Glebe Primary School is Mrs Rachel Domagala or in their absence Miss Morphew. In their duties, staff will be guided by their training, this policy and related procedures.

Implementation monitoring and review

All staff, governors, parents/carers and members of Glebe Primary School community will be made aware of and have access to this policy. This policy will be reviewed biennially and its implementation reviewed and as part of the Head teacher's annual report to Governors.

Insurance

Staff who follow the procedures outlined in this policy and who undertake tasks detailed in the RMP Medical Malpractice Treatment Table are covered under WSCC insurance policies. The medical audit is available to view on West Sussex Services for Schools under 'guide to insurance for schools'.

Claims received in respect of medical procedures not covered by the insurers will be considered under the Council's insurance fund.

Admissions

When the school is notified of the admission of any pupil with an assessment of the pupil's medical needs will be completed.

This might include the development of an Individual Health Care Plans (IHP) or Education Health Care Plans (EHC) and require additional staff training. The school will endeavour to put arrangements in place to support that pupil as quickly as possible. However, the school may decide (based on risk assessment) to delay the admission of a pupil until sufficient arrangements can be put in place.

Pupils with medical needs

The school will follow Government guidance and develop an IHP or EHC for pupils who:

- Have long term, complex or fluctuating conditions – these will be detailed using agreed documentation.
- Require medication in emergency situations – these will be detailed using clear documentation within the IHP.

Parents/Carers should provide the Head teacher with sufficient information about their child's medical condition and treatment or special care needed at school.

Arrangements can then be made, between the parents/carer, Head teacher, school nurse and other relevant health professionals to ensure that the pupil's medical needs are managed well during their time in school. Healthcare plans will be reviewed by the school annually or earlier if there is a change in a pupil's medical condition.

All prescribed and non-prescribed medication

On no account should a child come to school if they are unwell with a high temperature, are vomiting or have anything which may be contagious.

Children who come to school feeling generally unwell (with a cold for example) will be well looked after at school and parents will be contacted if their health deteriorates.

Parents may call into school and administer any medication to their child, which they feel is necessary.

In exceptional circumstances, they may request that a member of school staff administers the medicine. This will need the documented approval of the Managing Medicines Lead, and this will only be undertaken in very exceptional circumstances.

If a pupil refuses their medication, they should not be forced, the school will contact the parent/guardian and if necessary the emergency services. Pupils should not bring any medication to school for self-administration unless it is documented on an official IHCP.

Confidentiality

As required by the General Data Protection Act 2018, school staff should treat medical information confidentially. Staff will consult with the parent, or the pupil if appropriate, as to who else should have access to records and other information about the pupil's medical needs and this should be recorded on the IHP or EHC. It is expected that staff with contact to a pupil with medical needs will as a minimum be informed of the pupil's condition and know how to respond in a medical emergency.

Consent to administer medication:

Prescription Medicines

Medicine should only be brought to school when, in exceptional circumstances, it is essential to administer it during the school day, **and with the documented approval of the Managing Medicines Lead.** In the vast majority of cases, doses of medicine can be arranged around the school day thus avoiding the need for medicine in school.

Antibiotics for example are usually taken three times a day, so can be given with breakfast, on getting home from school and then at bedtime.

In exceptional circumstances and with the documented approval of the Managing Medicines Lead, Administration of medication will be recorded and the parent/carer informed. Parents and Carers will be responsible for bringing the medication to and from school and this will not be the responsibility of the child.

Parents/Carers must remove any remaining medicine from school once the prescribed course has been completed. Pupils will be given a red wristband to indicate that medicine has been administered by the school, with the time of administration written clearly.

Throat sweets are not permitted in school for reasons of Health and Safety.

Short term ad-hoc non-prescribed medication

The school does not and will not keep any stocks of standard paracetamol, ibuprofen and antihistamine.

Should a child need this during the course of the day, parents / carers or their representatives are welcome to come into school to administer this, but the school is unable to do so. School will ensure they keep in close contact with parents and carers, if a child becomes unwell during the school day and seek advice from the same as to what they feel the child needs.

Asthma

The school recognises that pupils with asthma need access to relief medication at all times. The school will manage asthma in school as outlined in the Asthma Toolkit. Pupils with asthma will be required to have an emergency inhaler and a spacer in school. The school may ask the pupils parent or carers to provide a second inhaler. Parents are responsible for this medication being in date and the school will communicate with the parents if new medication is required and a record of these communications will be kept. The school inhaler will only be used in an emergency and will always be used with a spacer as outlined in the Asthma Toolkit. The school will develop IHP's for those pupils with severe asthma, and complete the Individual Protocol for pupils with mild asthma.

Anaphylaxis

Every effort will be made by the school to identify and reduce the potential hazards/ triggers that can cause an allergic reaction to pupils diagnosed with anaphylaxis within the school population. The school complies with the School Nursing Service recommendation that all staff are trained in the administration of auto injectors and that training is renewed annually.

In accordance with the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) advice the school will ask parent/ carer(s) to provide 2 auto-injectors for school use. Parents are responsible for this medication being in date and the school will communicate with the parents if new medication is required and a record of these communications will be kept.

Hay fever

Parent(s)/carer(s) will be expected to administer a dose of antihistamine to their child before school for the treatment of hay fever. The school will only administer antihistamine for symptoms of allergic reaction and this will only be applicable to a child for whom there is a formal Individual Health Care Plan.

Severe Allergic Reaction

Where a GP/Consultant has recommended or prescribed antihistamine as an initial treatment for symptoms of allergic reaction this will be detailed on the pupils IHP. The school will administer 1 standard dose of antihistamine (appropriate to age and weight of the pupil) and it is very important that symptoms are monitored for signs of further allergic reaction. During this time pupils must NEVER be left alone and should be observed at all times as they await the arrival of parents / carers to collect them.

If symptoms develop or there are any signs of anaphylaxis or if there is any doubt regarding symptoms then if the pupil has been prescribed an adrenaline auto injector it will be administered without delay an ambulance called and the parents informed.

Medical Emergencies

In a medical emergency, first aid is given, an ambulance is called and parents/carers are notified. Should an emergency situation occur to a pupil who has an IHP or EHC, the emergency procedures detailed in the plan are followed, and a copy of the IHP or EHC is given to the ambulance crew. If applicable the pupil's emergency medication will be administered by trained school staff, if the pupils medication isn't available staff will administer the schools emergency medication with prior parental consent.

In accordance with amendments made to the Human Medicines Regulations 2012, from October 2014 a sufficient number of salbutamol inhaler(s) spacer(s) will be held by the school to cover emergency use. Parents are expected to provide 2 in date auto-injectors for administration to their child, if the school does not hold 2 in date auto-injectors for each pupil then a suitable number of auto-injectors will be purchased for use by the school in an emergency.

Instructions for calling an ambulance are displayed prominently in the Medical Room off of the Front Office.

Controlled Drugs

No controlled drugs are held at school.

Pupils taking their own medication

For certain long-term medical conditions, it is important for children to learn how to self-administer their medication. Appropriate arrangements for medication should be agreed and documented in the pupil's IHP or EHC and parents should complete the self-administration section of 'Parental consent to administer medication'.

Storage and Access to Medicines

All medicines apart from emergency medicines (inhalers, adrenaline auto injector,) will be kept securely (where access by pupils is restricted). Medicines are always stored in the original pharmacist's container. Pupils are told where their medication is stored and who holds the key and staff will be fully briefed on the procedures for obtaining their medication.

Emergency medicines such as inhalers, adrenaline and auto injectors must not be locked away. If appropriate certain emergency medication can be held by the pupil, or kept in a clearly identified container in his/her classroom. The school will make an assessment as to the competency of each individual pupil to carry their own medication. Parents will be asked to supply a second adrenaline auto injector and/or asthma inhaler for each child and they will be kept in the school office. Staff must ensure that emergency medication is readily available at all times i.e. during outside P.E. lessons, educational visits and in the event of an unforeseen emergency like a fire.

Medicines that require refrigeration are kept in the Front Office Kitchen to which pupil access is restricted, and will be clearly labelled in an airtight container.

Waste medication

Where possible staff should take care to prepare medication correctly.

If a course of medication has been completed or medication is date expired it will be returned to the parent/guardian for disposal.

Spillages

A spill must be dealt with as quickly as possible and staff are obliged to take responsibility/follow the guidelines. Spillages will be cleared up following the schools procedures and considering the control of infection. Any spilled medication will be deemed unsuitable for administration and if necessary parents will be asked to provide additional medication.

The school has additional procedures in place for the management of bodily fluids which are detailed in our bodily fluids risk assessment.

Record Keeping – administration of medicines

For legal reasons records of all medicines administered are kept at the school until the pupil reaches the age of 24. This includes medicines administered by staff during all educational or residential visits.

Recording Errors and Incidents

If for whatever reason there is a mistake made in the administration of medication and the pupil is:

- Given the wrong medication
- Given the wrong dose
- Given medication at the wrong time (insufficient intervals between doses)
- Given medication that is out of date
- Or the wrong pupil is given medication

Incidents must be reported to the School's Senior Leadership Team who will immediately inform the pupil's parent/guardian. Details of the incident will be recorded locally as part of the schools local arrangements. Local records must include details of what happened, the date, who is responsible and any effect the mistake has caused. Senior Management will investigate the incident and change procedures to prevent reoccurrence if necessary. NB: Incidents that arise from medical conditions that are being well managed by the school do not need to be reported or recorded locally.

Staff Training

The school will ensure a sufficient number of staff complete Managing Medicines in Schools training before they can administer medication to pupils. The school will also ensure that other staff who may occasionally need to administer a medicine are instructed and guided in the procedures adopted by the school by the person who has completed the Managing Medicines course. Staff given instruction by the Lead for Medicines MUST complete a competency test and achieve a score of 100% in order to administer medication.

Supply and locum staff will be given appropriate instruction and guidance in order to support the pupils with medical needs in their care. All school staff are trained annually to administer an auto-injector and asthma inhaler in an emergency.

A record of all training must be maintained to show the date of training for each member of staff and when repeat or refresher training is required.

The school will ensure that the staff who administer medicine for specific chronic conditions are trained to administer those specific medicines, for example, Diabetes (insulin) Epilepsy (midazolam). Training in the administration of these specific medicines is arranged via the school nurse.

Educational Visits (Off - site one day)

Staff will administer prescription medicines to pupils when required during educational visits. Parents should ensure they complete a consent form and supply a sufficient amount of medication in its pharmacist's container. Medicines as detailed in this policy will not be administered by staff (unless these are exceptional circumstances agreed and documented by the Managing Medicines Lead), pupils must not under any circumstances, carry non-prescription medication for self-administration.

All staff will be briefed about any emergency procedures needed with reference to pupils where needs are known and copies of care plans will be taken by the responsible person.

Residential Visits (overnight stays)

The school acknowledges the common law 'duty of care' to act like any prudent parent. This extends to the administration of medicines and taking action in an emergency, according to the care plan.

Occasionally it may be necessary to administer non-prescription medicines as described in this policy i.e. antihistamine to pupils suffering from an allergic reaction or paracetamol for acute pain from things like headache, period pain, toothache etc. Parents must give written consent prior to the specific residential visit and sign to confirm that they have administered the medication without adverse effect.

The school will keep its own supply of some non-prescription medication for administration to pupils during a residential visit. Parental consent will be required in order for the school to administer their supply. The medication will be stored and administration recorded as for prescription medicines. Pupils should never bring non-prescribed medication on the

residential visit for self-administration. Any other medication such as antibiotics must not be held by the child for self-administration. These MUST be handed to the member of staff responsible for the visit.

Risk assessing medicines management on all off site visits

Pupils with medical needs shall be included in visits as far as this is reasonably practicable. School staff will discuss any issues with parents and/or health professionals so that extra measures (if appropriate) can be put in place. A copy of the pupils IHP or EHP will be taken on the visit and detail arrangements relating to the management of their medication(s) during the visit should be included in the plan.

If a pupil requires prescribed or non-prescribed medication during visit and an IHP or EHP has not been developed and the management of their medication differs from procedures followed whilst in school, the school will conduct a risk assessment and record their findings.

Travelling abroad – a risk assessment will be developed considering parental and medical advice and documented on the pupils IHP or EHP. If an IHP or EHP has not been developed, the school will record their findings. Best practice would be to translate these documents to the language of the country being visited. The international emergency number should be on the care plan (112 is the EU number). European Health Insurance Cards (EHIC) should be applied for by parents and supplied to the school prior to travel for all pupils that travel abroad.

The results of risk assessments however they are recorded i.e. IHP, EHP etc. will be communicated to the relevant staff and records kept of this communication.

Complaints

Issuing arising from the medical treatment of a pupil whilst in school should in the first instance be directed to the Head teacher. If the issue cannot easily be resolved the Head teacher will inform the governing body who will seek resolution.