

## **Guidance for Schools or Settings on Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs**

This advice should relate closely to the school's/setting's Health and Safety Policy, SEN and Inclusion policy and The Learning Trust's Health and Safety policy. This guidance will be added to and should provide the basis for each school's policy on pupils with medical needs.

- Each school must have a policy stating how they will support pupils with medical needs. There must be a designated teacher with responsibility for pupils with medical needs.
- The school must have advice and/or reports from the relevant health professionals.
- The school nurse will be able to advise the school on training or care issues. There must be a Care Plan for each pupil with medical needs/disability. The school nurse will write this.
- All school staff should have training on supporting pupils with medical needs and in particular any specific diagnosed condition(s) the pupil(s) may have.
- There will be an institutional decision about the use of medication in schools and whether pupils carry their own medication/inhalers.
- Personal care needs should be met with sensitivity and dignity.
- There must be an agreed procedure on how the organisation will respond in an emergency.
- Close liaison and communication with the parents/carers is essential. A home-school book may be helpful.

Pupils may have frequent absences from school because of illness, hospital visits or hospitalisation. They may be tired at the end of the school day and these factors will affect learning and continuity in education. Consider how best the school can help and be flexible in meeting individual needs.

Refer to the Home Tuition Service where appropriate - this should be in place by the fifteenth day of a health-related absence- but with chronic illnesses or conditions support may be available from the first day of absence. These pupils must have a Personal Education Plan in place and everything should be done to provide continuity in education. Schools and settings should always liaise closely with the Home Tuition Service and Hospital School.

Good multi-agency liaison is important to ensure equality of educational opportunity.

**sample statement for schools**

**SUPPORT FOR PUPILS WITH MEDICAL NEEDS**

The school and its staff are committed to offering a high quality education to all *children\*\*/ young people\*\** in the community in line with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act.

This school promotes inclusion and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that *children\*\*/young people\*\** with a disability or SEN are not discriminated against or treated less favourably than other pupils. The school will work in partnership with the family and other agencies in the best interests of the pupil and to maximise educational opportunity.

*Children\*\*/young people\*\** with a disability will have individual Care Plans drawn up in close consultation with the pupil, parents/carers, school nurse and other professionals. We will ensure that any necessary advice and training will be provided by the relevant professionals and certificates of competence kept on file.

Once trained, school staff are covered by the Schools Public Liability Insurance. The school will follow the guidelines from the DfES & DOH guidance “Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Setting” (2005) and “Access to Education for children and young people with medical needs” (2001).

*(\*\* word dependent upon age)*

For additional advice or support contact:  
The Inclusion Team, TLT: 020 8820 7326 or your School Nurse.

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