

# **St Peter's Brafferton CE VA Primary School's** **Policy for Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Needs**

## **Regard to Documentation**

At St Peter's Brafferton, we will have due regard to the following documents:

- Department for Education's statutory guidance, 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions', April 2014 (This statutory guidance also refers to other specific laws.)
- Children and Families Act 2014 (Section 100)
- Equality Act 2010
- Special Educational Needs Code of Practice
- Other school policies, such as Child Protection, Equal Opportunities, Behaviour, Administering Medicines, Intimate Care and Special Educational Needs.

## **Introduction**

At St Peter's Brafferton, children with medical conditions, physical and/or mental, will be properly supported in school so that they can play a full and active role in school life, remain healthy and achieve their academic potential and access and enjoy the same opportunities at school as any other child.

We recognise that pupils with long-term and complex medical conditions may require on-going support, medicines or care while at school to help them to manage their condition and keep them well. Others may require monitoring and interventions in emergency circumstances. St Peter's Brafferton recognises that each child's needs are individual.

We also recognise that needs may change over time, and that this may result in extended absence from school. The school will make every effort to minimise the impact on a child's educational attainment and support his or her emotional and general well-being, including any necessary re-integration programmes. The school will focus on giving pupils and their parents every confidence in the school's approach.

The school recognises that some children who require support with their medical conditions may also have special educational needs and may have a statement or Education Healthcare Plan (EHCP). We will work together with other schools, health professionals, other support services, and the Local Authority. Sometimes it may be necessary for the school to work flexibly, and may, for example, involve a combination of attendance at school and alternative provision.

No child with a medical condition will be denied admission on the grounds that arrangements for his or her medical condition have not been made. In line with the school's safeguarding duties, the school does not have to accept a child in school at times where it would be detrimental to the health of that child or others to do so.

## **Policy Implementation**

- The Headteacher will ensure that sufficient staff are suitably trained,

- All relevant staff will be made aware of the child's condition,
- Cover arrangements will be put in place to cover for staff absence, to ensure that someone is always available,
- Supply teachers will be briefed ,
- Risk assessments will be put in place for educational visits, and other school activities outside the normal timetable, and
- Individual healthcare plans will be monitored frequently.

### **Procedure to be followed when notification is received that a pupil has a medical condition**

The school, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders including parents, will:

- Ensure that arrangements are put into place to cover transition from another setting, upon being notified that a child is coming into school with a medical condition. These may vary from child to child, according to existing HCPs.
- Ensure that arrangements are implemented following reintegration into the school or when the needs of a child change.
- Put arrangements into place in time for the start of the new school term.
- In other cases, such as a new diagnosis or children moving to a new school mid-term, every effort will be made to ensure that arrangements are in place within two weeks.
- Provide support to pupils where it is judged by professionals that there is likely to be a medical condition. Where evidence conflicts, some degree of challenge may be necessary to ensure that the right support can be put into place.
- Any staff training needs are identified and met.

### **Individual Healthcare Plans**

The headteacher will be responsible for arranging IHPs. Their purpose is to ensure that they provide clarity about what needs to be done, when and by whom. They will often be essential, such as in cases where conditions fluctuate or where there is a high risk that emergency intervention will be needed, and they are likely to be helpful in the majority of other cases, especially where medical conditions are long-term and complex. However, not all children will require one. The school, healthcare professionals and parents should agree, based on evidence, when a healthcare plan would be inappropriate or disproportionate. If consensus cannot be reached, the headteacher is best placed to take a final view.

The healthcare plan is a confidential document. The level of detail within will depend on the complexity of the child's condition and the degree of support needed. Where a child has a special educational need, but does not have a statement or EHC plan, their special educational needs will be mentioned in their individual healthcare plan. Individual healthcare plans, and their review, may be initiated, in consultation with the parent, by a member of school staff or a healthcare professional involved in providing care for the child. Plans will be drawn up in partnership between the school, parents, and a relevant healthcare professional, eg. specialist or community nurse. Wherever possible, the child will also be involved in the process. The aim is to capture the steps which a school should take to help the child manage their condition and overcome any potential barriers to getting the most from their education. Responsibility for ensuring the plan is finalised rests with the school.

The individual healthcare plans are reviewed at least annually, or earlier if evidence is presented that the child's needs have changed. The plans are devised with the child's best interests in mind, ensuring that an assessment of risk to the child's education, health and social well-being is managed, minimising disruption. Reviews will be linked to any education healthcare plan the child may have.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

Supporting a child with a medical condition during school hours is not the sole responsibility of one person. The school will work collaboratively; both with staff within the organisation and with outside agencies, as the circumstances of each child dictate.

### **Governing Body**

The Governing Body will ensure that pupils in school with medical conditions are supported. It will ensure that a policy is developed, implemented and monitored. The Governing Body will ensure that staff receive suitable training and that they are competent before they take on the responsibility to support children with medical conditions.

### **Headteacher**

The Headteacher will:

- Ensure that the Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy is developed and effectively implemented with partners, including that all staff are aware of the policy and that they understand their role in implementing it.
- Ensure that all staff who need to know are aware of a child's condition.

Reviewed September 2016

Re review Date September 2019