

Ernest Bevin College
Supporting Children with Medical Conditions Policy



Aims

- To ensure that all staff understand that a medical condition should not be a barrier to learning.
- To outline the duty of care held by the college with regards to students with medical conditions.
- To establish effective working relationships and positive communication between all the stakeholders involved with a student with a medical condition.
- To ensure that the whole College environment is inclusive to students with medical conditions. This includes the physical environment as well as social, sporting and educational activities.
- To have contingency plans in place should a student be unable to attend College due to a medical condition

Responsibility: Assistant Principal	Date Approved: May 2022
Approved by: Principal	Review Date: May 2023
Monitored by: Principal	Links to other Policies: SEND Accessibility plan Equality First aid Health and safety Safeguarding

Guidelines

1. The college will work hard to establish an effective working relationship with stakeholders in the management of a student’s medical condition. The stakeholders include the student, his or her family, the college staff, GP or hospital staff, school nurse, social workers and other medical professionals.
2. Some examples of medical conditions relevant to this policy are asthma, diabetes, sickle cell anaemia, haemophilia, HIV, physical or sensory disability and allergies. This is not an exhaustive list.
3. Not all medical conditions will require medication, but may require adjustments to the way in which a student is managed.
4. The college staff will be open and honest in their dealings with students’ medical needs. It is vital that the spirit of working together is transparent and the college is informed of any medical conditions and of any changes in the ways in which these should be managed.
5. All staff understand, and relevant staff are trained in what to do in an emergency for children with medical conditions.
6. The college has clear guidance on the storage of medication at college.
7. The College will ask for evidence of illness or medical treatment in cases where there are concerns about the level of absence. We will also ask for medical evidence when we have a strong suspicion of absence due to reasons

other than medical illness or safeguarding issues where the college will make efforts to make these concerns known to the relevant healthcare professional.

8. The college has a threshold of 16 sessions (equal to eight days) for authorising absence without medical evidence. For this number of sessions, parents can contact the school with no need to produce medical information, after this point students are expected to bring medical notes for any absence incur as medical.

9. If parents fail to bring medical proof after the 16 sessions, EBC will not authorise any further absences unless they bring medical evidence.

10. The college EWO may need to request that parents sign a "Medical Consent Form" if the school believe that the levels of illness are high.

Implementation

1. The college will liaise with stakeholders when a student arrives with an ongoing medical condition or develops one whilst with us. The information may arrive as part of SEN handover, medical plan, health questionnaire or in interview or meeting. We expect those with parental responsibilities to disclose relevant information if their son's/daughter's medical needs change.
2. Students with medical conditions are recorded on the college's confidential medical list. In some cases, a 'Medical Plan' is produced and made available on SIMS, the student is added to the SEN register and a note put in the planner - where adjustments need to be made.
3. The college will plan the appropriate level of student support. The Health Care Coordinator is likely to lead on this – for example storing medicines, administering medication or giving advice.
4. Other key staff have access to the medical room and knowledge of where medication is kept. Medication can only be stored and administered if it is with the relevant prescription label or, in the case on non-prescription items (e.g. painkillers or cold remedies), with written permission from parents. The Parental Agreement for college staff to administer needs must be completed.
5. The School Nurse will raise awareness of students' medical conditions with a brief report – including a photo, description of the condition, any advice regarding managing the condition – circulated to staff in the college Safe Box. This is of course done with sensitivity and respecting confidentiality. Certain conditions are highly sensitive and may require staff to be made aware on a need-to-know basis.
6. The vast majority of medical conditions can be managed in a straightforward manner by the college, however there may be occasions where a condition requires a risk assessment to be carried out and a more detailed healthcare plan drawn up if the college feels that the condition and student are within its capacity to manage.
7. In the vast majority of cases students with ongoing medical conditions can attend College regularly and achieve well with minor adjustments (diabetes, allergies, sickle cell etc). In rare cases a students may be unable to attend. We will make contact with the family and organise a programme of study appropriate for the situation. In many cases students who are SEND will receive tailored support as part of this package.
8. Students can be offered a phased return to College – for example having a shorter day or spending some periods of time in the LSC. This will be constantly monitored by the head of year and SENCO.

9. Where a student is unlikely to be able to return to College within a short timeframe (weeks) then the College will liaise with the home hospital tuition service to provide education and support a return to College.
10. Students with medical conditions should not be prohibited from attending college journeys or off-site visits. All staff accompanying these trips should be made aware of conditions and any actions which may be required. Students with medical conditions should be taken into account as part of the risk assessment for any college journey. Disclosure of medical needs will be part of the permission forms for college journeys.
11. The college will monitor the well-being of students with medical conditions through the regular inclusion panel meetings. The attendance of all students is monitored but there will be a particular emphasis upon the record of those with medical conditions.
12. Staff training on relevant areas (eg. sickle cell, asthma, allergies, diabetes, epilepsy) will take place regularly either for whole staff or for key groups, depending on need.

Evaluation

This policy should be the subject of an annual review, through discussion with key staff.