



## Plymouth CAST Multi Academy Trust

# Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions and Administration of Medication Policy

## July 2024

### Document Control

### Changes History

Version	Date	Amended by	Recipients	Purpose
1.0	January 2022	Director of Education	All Plymouth CAST Schools	New policy to adopt locally
2.0	July 2024	COO / SELT	All Plymouth CAST Schools	Policy Review

### Approvals

This policy requires the following approvals:

Board	Chair	CEO	Date Approved	Version	Date for Review
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	January 2022	1.0	January 2024
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	July 2024	2.0	January 2026

**National/Local Policy**

This policy must be localised by Academies

This policy must not be changed, it is a CAST/National Policy (only change logo, contact details and any yellow highlights)

**Position with the Unions**

Does the policy require consultation with the National Unions under our recognition agreement?  Yes

No

If yes, the policy status is:  Consulted and Approved  Consulted and Not Approved  Awaiting Consultation

## Introduction

Our vision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and those with temporary or life-long medical conditions is the same as for all children in our academies. We aim to provide outstanding education to all children and young people and full access to the life of the school. We are fully inclusive in our provision in terms of social background, ability, ethnicity, disability, religion, gender, or sexuality. We strive to ensure access for all to educational excellence in preparing young people for their futures, seeking to continually improve levels of attainment and progress for all, and secure the highest levels of achievement appropriate to the individual learner.

**Key Points** (Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions Statutory guidance for Governing Bodies of Maintained Schools and Proprietors of Academies in England DfE 2015):

- Pupils at school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education
- The Local CAST Board must ensure that arrangements are in place in schools to support pupils at school with medical conditions.
- The Local CAST Board should ensure that school leaders consult health and social care professionals, pupils and parents to ensure that the needs of children with medical conditions are properly understood and effectively supported.
- The Local CAST Board should ensure that its arrangements give parents and pupils confidence in the school's ability to provide effective support for medical conditions in school. The arrangements should show an understanding of how medical conditions impact on a child's ability to learn, as well as increase confidence and promote self-care. They should ensure that staff are properly trained to provide the support that pupils need.
- In supporting pupils at school with medical conditions, The Local CAST Board must have due regard to the Equalities Act 2010, and the SEND Code of Practice.

### *Our Lady and St Patrick's Catholic Primary and Nursery School*

1. The staff of *Our Lady and St Patrick's Catholic Primary and Nursery School* wishes to ensure that students with medical needs receive proper care and support. Our intention is to ensure that students with medical conditions should have full access to education including trips and PE. The governing body will ensure that staff are supported and trained and competent before they take on the responsibility of supporting students with medical conditions.
2. The employer's insurance will cover liability relating to the administration of medication.
3. *Rachel O'Sullivan* will be responsible for ensuring the following:
  - Procedures to be followed when notification is received that a student will be attending who has a medical condition (including transitional arrangements between schools, re-integration or when students' needs change; arrangements for staff training or support)
    - Staff training on the procedures for the safe administration of medication will be provided via the SSS Learning system.

- Specific training relating to individual conditions, illnesses and disabilities will be provided as required.
  - Regular whole-school overview and familiarity sessions in respect of children who may require emergency asthma and anaphylaxis medication.
- Procedures to be followed when a student moves to the school mid-term or when a student has a new diagnosis
- *If home-to school transport is in place the school will liaise directly with the company to ensure training is in place and procedures are known.*
  - *procedures for asthma inhalers/spacers: An individual asthma plan will be agreed and immediately put in place.*
  - *Procedures for defibrillators – nearest one is at the local football club.*
  - *procedures for adrenaline auto-injectors: an individual health care plan will be completed and shared with all staff (placed on staff noticeboard). The SENDCo will ensure all training is up to date.*
  - *Procedures for ensuring that all necessary information about the pupil's condition and its management/IHCP including any required medication is included on a risk assessment and planning for educational visits, off-site activities, on site extra curricular activities and activities taking place outside of the normal school day such as holiday clubs and PTA run events.*
4. The above procedures will be monitored and reviewed by *Rachel O'Sullivan*.
5. Where identified as being necessary, Individual Healthcare Plans (IHCP) will be developed between *Our Lady and St Patrick's Catholic Primary and Nursery School*, healthcare professionals and parents so that the steps needed to help a student manage their condition and overcome any potential barriers to getting the most from their education are identified. The IHCP will include:
- a) The student's medical condition, its triggers, symptoms, medication needs and the level of support needed in an emergency. Also it must include any treatments, time, facilities, equipment, testing and access to food or drink (where it is used to manage their condition), dietary requirements and environmental issues such as crowded corridors and travel time between lessons
  - b) Specific support for the student's education, social and emotional needs, such as how will absences be managed, requirements for extra time to complete exams, use of rest periods or counselling sessions
  - c) Who will provide this support, their training needs, expectations of their role and confirmation of proficiency to provide support from a healthcare professional
  - d) Cover arrangements and who in the school needs to be aware of the student's condition and the support required including supply staff
  - e) Arrangements for written permission from parents for medication
  - f) Arrangements or procedures for school trips or other school activities outside the normal timetable; completion of risk assessments for visits and school activities outside the normal timetable
  - g) The designated individuals to be entrusted with the above information
  - h) Procedures in the event of the student refusing to take medicine or carry out a necessary procedure

6. *Cathy Blatchford, Head Teacher* will have the final decision on whether an Individual Health Care Plan is required.

#### **Students with asthma**

7. *Our Lady and St Patrick's Catholic Primary and Nursery School* has decided to hold an emergency inhaler and spacer for the treatment of an asthma attack.
8. *Rachel O'Sullivan* will be responsible for ensuring the following:
- Instructing all staff on the symptoms of an asthma attack
  - Instructing all staff on the existence of this policy
  - Instructing all staff on how to check the asthma register
  - Instructing all staff on how to access the inhaler
  - Making all staff aware of which staff have agreed, and have been trained, to administer asthma medication (the 'designated staff') and how to access their help
9. *Rachel O'Sullivan* will be responsible for ensuring that designated staff:
- Recognise the signs of an asthma attack and when emergency action is necessary
  - Know how to administer inhalers through a spacer
  - Make appropriate records of attacks
10. *Rachel O'Sullivan and Sally Emmerton* will be responsible for the storage, care and disposal of asthma medication.
11. *Rachel O'Sullivan* will be responsible for ensuring that there has been written consent from parents for the administration of the emergency inhaler and spacer. The emergency inhaler/spacer will only be available for students who have been diagnosed with asthma and have been prescribed reliever inhaler AND for whom parental consent has been given. This information shall be recorded in the student's IHCP plan.
12. *Mary Nock* will be responsible for the monitoring the administration of medication and for maintaining the asthma register.
13. *Rachel O'Sullivan* will be responsible for ensuring parents are informed in writing when the emergency inhaler/spacer has been used.
14. **Students with anaphylaxis**
15. *Our Lady and St Patrick's Catholic Primary and Nursery School* has decided to hold an emergency adrenaline auto-injector for the treatment of an anaphylaxis attack for pupils who have been diagnosed with anaphylaxis and prescribed an auto-injector.
16. *Rachel O'Sullivan* will be responsible for ensuring the following:
- Instructing all staff on the symptoms of an anaphylaxis attack

- Instructing all staff on the existence of this policy
- Instructing all staff on how to check the pupil medical register
- Instructing all staff on how to access the auto-injector
- Making all staff aware of which staff have agreed, and have been trained, to administer the auto-injectors (the 'designated staff') and how to access their help

17. *Rachel O'Sullivan* will be responsible for ensuring that designated staff:

- Recognise the signs of an anaphylaxis attack and when emergency action is necessary
- Know how to administer the auto-injectors
- Make appropriate records of attacks

18. *Rachel O'Sullivan and Sally Emmerton* will be responsible for the storage, care and disposal of the adrenaline auto-injector.

19. *Rachel O'Sullivan* will be responsible for ensuring that there has been written consent from parents for the administration of the emergency auto-injector. The emergency auto-injector will only be available for students who have been diagnosed with anaphylaxis and have been prescribed an auto-injector AND for whom parental consent has been given. This information shall be recorded in the student's IHCP plan.

20. *Mary Nock* will be responsible for the monitoring the administration of medication and for maintaining the pupil medical register.

21. *Rachel O'Sullivan* will be responsible for ensuring parents are informed when the auto-injector has been used.

#### **THE ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINE**

22. The Headteacher will accept responsibility in principle for members of school staff giving or supervising a student taking prescribed medication during the day, where those members of staff have volunteered to do so.

23. Any parent/carer requesting the administration of medication will be given a copy of this policy.

24.

- **Prescribed medication** will be accepted and administered in the establishment. DfE guidance is that prescribed medicines should only be accepted if they are in date and provided in the container as originally dispensed by the pharmacist. The label on the container supplied by the pharmacist should not be altered under any circumstances. Containers should be clearly marked with the student's name, date of dispensing and the name of medication and include the prescriber's instructions for administration, dosage, and storage. The exception to this is insulin which still must be in date but will be supplied in a pump rather than its original container. All instances of prescribed medication being administered to pupils will be notified to parents/carers via a notification slip sent home with the pupil. This will be in addition to the school's records of administered medicines being accurately completed and maintained.(See Appendix 1)

- **Non-prescribed medication** will only be accepted if they are in date and provided in the original manufacturer's container and administered in the following circumstances in the event that parents/carers are unable to attend school to administer the non-prescribed medicine to their child: *e.g. when a young person has regular headaches, menstrual pain, attending residentials, travelling, toothache, at head teacher's discretion, under the Minor Ailments Scheme run by the NHS*. Parents/carers will always be contacted before non-prescribed medication is administered so that the school can check whether any medication has been administered at home, and to inform parents/carers that the school will be administering the non-prescribed medication. All non-prescribed medication will be administered in accordance with the dosage instructions on the manufacturer's packaging. All instances of non-prescribed medication being administered to pupils will be notified to parents/carers via a notification slip sent home with the pupil. This will in addition to the school's records of administered medicines being accurately completed and maintained. **(See Appendix 1)**

25. Prior written parental consent is required before any medication can be administered. **(See Appendix 1)**
26. Only reasonable quantities of medication will be accepted **(no more than one week's supply)**.
27. Each item of medication should be delivered in its original dispensed container and handed directly to the Headteacher or one of the school office staff authorised by the Headteacher.
28. Each item of medication should be clearly labelled with the following information:
  - Student's name
  - Name of medication
  - Dosage
  - Frequency of dosage
  - Date of dispensing
  - Storage requirements (if important)
  - Expiry date (if available)
29. The school will not accept items of medication which are in unlabelled containers or not in their original container.
30. Unless otherwise indicated, all medication to be administered in the school will be kept in the medical cabinet in the school office.
31. Staff administering medicines will record and sign each time a medicine is administered. Written records of all medication administered to every pupil will be held by the school in a secure location and may be made available to parents on request. **(See Appendix 1)**
32. If a pupil refuses their medication, staff will record this, report to parents as soon as possible and follow the protocol laid down in the IHCP.
33. Where it is appropriate to do so, students will be encouraged to administer their own medication - if necessary, under staff supervision. Parents/carers will be asked to confirm in writing if they wish their student to carry their emergency medication with them. .

**Commented [1]:** All medicines should be stored appropriately. Asthma medication and epi-pens should not be stored in locked facilities. DCC H&S Service have confirmed that it is best practice for pupils who need prescribed asthma medication or epi-pens to carry the medication with them. Only where children are of insufficient maturity or cognitive ability to carry their own medication, it was suggested that the medication should such medication be stored.

**Commented [2R1]:** THIS IS A NOTE FOR ALL CAST SCHOOLS

**Commented [3]:** The record of the administration of medicines must be maintained in EVERY instance, including routine administration of prescribed medication including asthma medication.

**Commented [4R3]:** THIS IS A NOTE FOR ALL CAST SCHOOLS

34. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to notify the school if there is a change in medication, a change in dosage requirements, or the discontinuation of a student's need for medication.
35. Staff who volunteer to assist in the administration of invasive medication will receive appropriate training/guidance through arrangements made with the school's Nurse Service. In pre-school settings arrangements will be made through Primary Care Health Visitors.
36. The school will make every effort to continue the administration of medication to a student whilst on activities away from the premises.
37. Information on a pupil's medical needs may be shared as required, and in accordance with our Privacy Notice, for the purposes of safeguarding children and young people.

#### **Local School Health Service and Other Contact Details**

38. *Anita Costelloe, School Nursing Service, anita.costelloe@nhs.net*

#### **Further Guidance**

39. It is acknowledged that at times a school's individual context may require a significant divergence from this policy in order to accommodate a specific local need. In this instance schools are directed to contact Plymouth CAST Chief Operating Officer, Rose Colpus-Fricker for support and advice.

**Plymouth CAST**  
**July 2024**



## Appendix 1

### Mandatory Associated Documents for All CAST Schools on

The following documents are held within the '[Document Library](#)' on the Devon Health & Safety Service [OSHENS](#) portal and must be used by all CAST schools:

- Health & Safety Arrangements Guidance: '**HSA32 - Medication Arrangements**'
- Form for use for each pupil with administered medication: '**Parental Agreement for admin of medicine**'
- Form for use for each pupil with administered medication '**Record of Administered Medicine**'

Additional to the mandatory OSHENS documentation, all schools must ensure that a notification slip is sent home in the event of any instance of medication being administered to a pupil (prescribed or non-prescribed) which must record the following information:

Notification of Medication Administered			
School Name:			
Pupil Name:			
Year Group:		Class Name:	
Medication Name:		Dosage Administered:	
Staff Name:		Staff Signature	

## Appendix 2

### Support for Employees

A2.1 Zurich Municipal, our Insurance Company through DAS, provides a FREE confidential counselling service available 24 hours a day to ALL CAST employees, volunteers and their families. The number is 0117 934 2121. All employees should quote that they are an employee of Plymouth CAST to be able to access this service.

A2.2 The Education Support Partnership Charity provides a FREE Confidential Telephone Support and Counselling Service available 24 hours a day to all teachers and staff in primary and secondary schools. The number is 08000 562 561.  
<https://www.educationsupportpartnership.org.uk/helping-you/telephone-support-counselling>.

**Appendix 3**

**Link to Schools Allergy Code**

<https://theallergyteam.com/schools-allergy-code/>