



The Skinners' School

Medical Conditions and Treatment Policy

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Governing Committee:	Education Committee
LG Responsibility:	Julian Metcalf



The Skinners' School

Medical Conditions and Treatment Policy

1. Medical Conditions

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.

Pupils at school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education. It is therefore important that parents feel confident that Skinners' School will provide effective support for their child's medical condition. The school will take advice from healthcare professionals and will value the views of parents and pupils.

Children with medical conditions may be self-conscious and some may be bullied or develop emotional disorders such as anxiety or depression around their medical condition. Associated long-term absences will affect educational attainment, impact on integration with their peers and affect general wellbeing and emotional health. The school will therefore support reintegration into school following absence so that such children do not fall behind when they are unable to attend. This includes a supportive approach to short term and frequent absences, including those for appointments connected with a pupil's medical condition.

Some children with medical conditions may be disabled. Where this is the case the school will recognise its duties under the Equality Act 2010. Some may also have special educational needs (SEN) and may have a statement, or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan which brings together health and social care needs. For children with SEN, this policy should be read in conjunction with the SEN code of practice and the schools SEN Policy.

There is a need to make sure that pupils with medical conditions participate fully in school trips and visits, or in sporting activities. The school will make teachers aware of how a child's medical condition will impact on their participation, but there should be enough flexibility for all children to participate according to their own abilities and with any reasonable adjustments.

The school will not:

- prevent children from easily accessing their inhalers and medication and administering their medication when and where necessary;
- assume that every child with the same condition requires the same treatment;
- ignore the views of the child or their parents; or ignore medical evidence or opinion, (although this may be challenged);
- send children with medical conditions home frequently or prevent them from staying for normal school activities, including lunch, unless this is specified in their individual healthcare plans;
- if the child becomes ill, send them to the school office or medical room unaccompanied or with someone unsuitable;

- penalise children for their attendance record if their absences are related to their medical condition eg. hospital appointments;
- prevent pupils from drinking, eating or taking toilet or other breaks whenever they need to in order to manage their medical condition effectively;
- require parents, or otherwise make them feel obliged, to attend school to administer medication or provide medical support to their child, including with toileting issues. No parent should have to give up working because the school is failing to support their child's medical needs; or
- prevent children from participating, or create unnecessary barriers to children participating in any aspect of school life, including school trips, eg by requiring parents to accompany the child.

2. Medical Treatment

The aim of this guidance is to enable regular attendance at The Skinners' School for those students with medical needs, and to provide a safe and secure framework for the provision of required medicines for students whilst in The Skinners' School. Students with long term medical needs must have their needs communicated in writing by their parent/carer on admission. A Healthcare plan can then be drawn up before they start at The Skinners' School.

There is a need, at this point, for prior written agreement from parents for any medication to be given to a student. This information will also help The Skinners' School complete a register of students with medical needs.

Medication should only be brought to The Skinners' School when absolutely essential. No student can carry medication during school day. They must hand in their medication, clearly labelled, to the School office. (Inhalers are an exception to this and should be carried by the student at all times; a student's GP should advise the school if the student should carry an epipen or diabetic medication). Parents should be encouraged to ask the prescribing doctor to prescribe dose frequencies which enable the medication to be taken outside Skinners' School hours.

The medication will be placed in a cupboard and only administered during the day as prescribed and only at the request of the parent. Staff will seek out a student for the purpose of administering medication if they have not arrived at the right time. A strict record of any administration will be kept in the "Medication Administered Log". Access to medication will be restricted to trained staff. If a student does not take their medication as prescribed The Skinners' School will attempt to inform the student's parents as a matter of urgency. If necessary, The Skinners' School should call the emergency services.

The school will store neutral inhalers for generic and emergency use by asthma sufferers, with one inhaler stored in the School Office and another at Southfields.

Non Prescribed Medication

Skinners' School staff must not give non-prescribed medication to students. A student under 12 should never be given aspirin.

If a student suffers regularly from acute pain, such as migraine, the parents should authorise and supply appropriate pain killers for their child's use, with written instructions about when the child should take the medication.

Any member of staff giving medicine should check:-

- the student's name
- written instructions

- prescribed dose
- expiry date

Even if students administer their own medicine they should not carry it with them in The Skinners' School and must hand it in to the School office.

Skinners' School trips

Any student, who is required to regularly take any form of medication, must inform a member of staff of their requirements before leaving The Skinners' School site to partake in any outing.

Staff taking students off site for more than one day must make sure all students have a completed Parental Permission form authorising urgent first aid treatment to be given should the need arise.

Any student taken ill whilst off the site but whilst on Skinners' School business, must be given immediate medical attention and parents/guardian must be informed as soon as possible.

Complaints

Should parents or pupils be dissatisfied with the support provided they should discuss their concerns directly with the school. If for whatever reason this does not resolve the issue, they may make a formal complaint via the school's complaints procedure.

September 2014