

Medical Conditions Policy

Children with mental and physical conditions will be supported at the nursery to help the child manage their condition and overcome any potential barriers to getting the most from their education. They should be treated the same as other children and have access to the same activities and opportunities for learning etc.

Identifying if a child has a medical condition:

Staff ask parents as part of the registration and induction process if they have any medical conditions. We also ask parents periodically in order to keep up on any changes to a child's health.

Some children have medical conditions that do not affect them at nursery. For example, if they are only given medication at home. However, it is still important that the parents notify the staff in their room so that they can inform any relevant service in the event of emergency.

Process of supporting child with a medical condition:

The senior room leader's responsibility to ensure an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) is completed for the child in their room. Individual Healthcare Plan's should be written up in consultation with the parent/ carer and any health professionals involved.

If help is needed, the SENDCO is able to assist with completing paperwork etc. The results of the Individual Healthcare Plan should also be shared with the SENDCO on completion of the form so that they are aware of the child's medical condition. The purpose of the Individual Healthcare Plan is to identify if there is anything the nursery needs to do to manage the child's medical condition, when and who by.

The SENDCO should then ensure that the staff members are suitably trained to care for the child and administer any medication correctly etc.

Any supply and other temporary staff will be made aware of the child's health condition so that they can provide support if necessary.

Risk assessments will be put into place for the child and the activities that they may be involved in at the nursery and other activities outside the nursery such as educational visits and transitions to school.

Staff will maintain a high level of communication with parents and any external agencies to keep up-to-date on the child's medical condition and will review the Care Plan annually or when the child's needs have changed.

- If a medical condition means that a child will be away from the nursery for a significant length of time we will offer the family the opportunity to have settling sessions to get the child used to attending the nursery again.

Information to be recorded:

When deciding upon the information to be recorded on IHPs, the following will be considered:

- The medical condition, its triggers, signs, symptoms and treatments.
- The child's resulting needs, including medication (dose, side-effects and storage) and other treatments, time, facilities, equipment, testing, access to food and drink where this is used to manage their condition, dietary requirements and environmental issues.
- Specific support for the child's educational, social and emotional needs. E.g. exams, use of rest periods or additional support in catching up with lessons, counselling sessions.
- The level of support needed, including in emergencies. If a child is self-managing their medication, this should be clearly stated with appropriate arrangements for monitoring.
- Who will provide the support, their training needs, expectations of their role and confirmation of proficiency to provide support for the child's medical condition from a healthcare professional; and cover arrangements for when they are unavailable.
- Who in the nursery needs to be aware of the child's condition and the support required.
- Arrangements for written permission from parents and a member of management for medication to be administered by a member of staff.
- Separate arrangements or procedures required for trips or other educational activities outside of the normal nursery routine that will ensure the child can participate, e.g. appropriate Risk Assessments.
- Where confidentiality issues are raised by the parent or child, the designated individuals to be entrusted with information about the child's condition.

- 'What to do in an emergency', including whom to contact and contingency arrangements. Accurate information about the child will be provided to the emergency services at the call out stage, during any first response stage, or subsequent moving on to hospital.
- Informing / sharing appropriate IHP information with other relevant bodies (e.g. Home to School Transport) – through appropriate agreement / consent.

Administering medicine:

Any member of the nursery staff may be asked to provide support to children with medical conditions, including the administration of medicines.

Any member of staff should know what to do and respond accordingly when they become aware that a child with a medical condition needs help.

Confidentiality:

The Care Plan is confidential to parents / young person and to those staff who need to know. The level of detail within a Care Plan will depend upon the complexity of the child's condition and the degree of support needed. Where a child has a special educational need.

Care Plans are scanned in and uploaded to the child's Family profile for data protection and confidentiality reasons. Access to this information is only given to those that need it.