

POLICY TITLE: Supporting Students with Medical Conditions

STATUS: Statutory

DATE of REVIEW: July 2021



Introduction

The Children and Families Act 2014 includes a duty for schools and colleges to support children with medical conditions. Where children have a disability, the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 will also apply.

Where children have an identified special need, the SEN Code of Practice will also apply.

All children have a right to access the full curriculum, adapted to their medical needs and to receive the on-going support, medicines or care that they require to help them manage their condition and keep them well. The Latimer Arts College recognises that medical conditions may impact on social and emotional development as well as having educational implications. We will build relationships with parents and carers, healthcare professionals and other agencies in order to effectively support students with medical conditions

Policy statement

The Latimer Arts College is an inclusive school that aims to support and welcome students with medical conditions. The College aims to ensure all students with medical conditions can access and enjoy the same opportunities as others at the College. The College understands that certain medical conditions are serious and can be potentially life threatening, particularly if ill managed or misunderstood.

We will commit to ensure all relevant staff are made aware of a child's condition and will endeavour to ensure:

- Staff understand their duty of care to children and young people in the event of an emergency.
- Staff feel confident in knowing what to do in an emergency.
- Staff understand the common medical conditions that affect children at the College.
- Staff receive training on the impact medical conditions can have on students.
- Staff understand the importance of medication being taken as prescribed.
- Student confidentiality.

Individual Healthcare Plans (IHCPs)

The Latimer Arts College will use an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHCP) to record important details about a child's medical needs at College, their triggers, signs, symptoms, medication and other treatments.

An IHCP will be written for students with a medical condition that is long term and complex that will clarify what needs to be done, when and by whom and include information about the child's condition, special requirements, medicines required, what constitutes an emergency and action to take in the case of an emergency.

Where a child has SEN but does not have a statement or Education Health and Care plan (EHC), their special educational needs will be mentioned in their IHCP.

IHCPs will be reviewed annually, or earlier if evidence is provided that a child's needs have changed.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Latimer Arts College will endeavour to ensure that each member of the college and health community knows and understands their roles and responsibilities in maintaining and implementing this policy. The College will ensure that all staff are aware of the policy and their role in any situation that requires intervention by them

The Governing Body - will ensure arrangements are in place to support students with medical conditions in College, including making sure that the policy for supporting students with medical conditions is developed and implemented.

The Principal – will ensure that the College policy is developed and effectively implemented with partners. They will also:

- ensure the College is inclusive and welcoming and that any medical conditions policy conforms to local and national guidance and policy frameworks;
- liaise between interested parties;
- ensure the policy is put into action as a working document and that all relevant parties are made aware of the policy;
- ensure pupil confidentiality;
- assess the training and development needs of staff and ensure they are met;
- ensure all relevant College staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in dealing with medical conditions, documenting information and handling of medicines and medical equipment in stored in the College;
- monitor and review the policy at least once a year.

College staff – any member of College staff may be asked to provide support to students with medical conditions. They will:

- ensure students who have been unwell have the opportunity to catch up on missed work;
- be aware that medical conditions can affect a student's learning and provide extra help when students need it;
- liaise with parents and carers, the student's healthcare professionals, the SENCO and welfare officers if a child is falling behind with their work because of their condition;
- be aware of the potential triggers, signs and symptoms of common medical conditions and know what to do in an emergency;

- understand the College's medical conditions policy and know which students in their care have a medical condition and be familiar with the content of the student's IHP;
- allow all students to have immediate access to their emergency medication and ensure students who carry their medication with them have it when they go on a school visit or out of the classroom;
- maintain effective communication with parents and carers including informing them if their child has been unwell at school;
- ensure that no student should not be forced to take part in any activity if they feel unwell;
- ensure all students with medical conditions are not excluded unnecessarily from activities they wish to take part in;
- ensure students have the appropriate medication or food with them during any exercise and are allowed to take it when needed.

School nurses – The Latimer Arts College will work in partnership with the school nursing service and will ensure that students and families/carers have access to this service. They school nurses will:

- help provide regular training for College staff in managing the most common medical conditions at College;
- provide information about where the College can access other specialist training.

Other healthcare professionals, including GPs and paediatricians – should notify the school nurse when a child has been identified as having a medical condition that will require support at College. Specialist local health teams may be able to provide support for children with particular conditions (eg asthma, diabetes, epilepsy).

Students – with medical conditions will be fully involved in discussions about their medical support needs and contribute as much as possible to the development of, and comply with, their individual healthcare plan. The College will ensure that all students:

- treat other students with and without a medical condition equally;
- tell the nearest staff member when they are not feeling well or let a member of staff know if another student is feeling unwell;
- will treat all medication with respect;
- know how to gain access to their medication in an emergency.

Parents/Carers – are key partners and will help in the development and review of their child's individual healthcare plan, and may be involved in its drafting. They should carry out any action they have agreed to as part of its implementation, eg provide medicines and equipment and ensure they or another nominated adult are contactable at all times. Parents and carers will:

- Inform the College if the child has a medical condition;
- inform the College about the medication their child requires during College hours or whilst taking part in visits, outings or field trips and other out-of-College activities;
- tell the College about any changes to their child's medication, what they take, when, and how much;
- inform the College of any changes to their child's condition;
- ensure their child's medication and medical devices are labelled with their child's full name;

- provide the College with appropriate spare medication labelled with their child's name;
- ensure that their child's medication is within expiry dates;
- ensure their child catches up on any College work they have missed;
- ensure their child has regular reviews about their condition with their doctor or specialist healthcare professional.

Equality Statement

The Latimer Arts College will do all it can to ensure that this policy does not discriminate, directly or indirectly. We will do this through regular and appropriate monitoring and evaluation of this policy.