

FOX WOOD SCHOOL



SUPPORTING PUPILS AT SCHOOL WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS POLICY

Headteacher: Miss Lucinda Duffy

Fox Wood School

Woolston Learning Village

Holes Lane

Woolston

Warrington

WA1 4LS

Tel: 01925 811534

Adopted by the Governing Body: 19th November 2025

Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions Policy

(Incorporating Requirements from the SEND Code of Practice, January 2015)

We understand that we have a responsibility to make the school welcoming and supportive to pupils with medical conditions who currently attend and to those who may enrol in the future.

Statutory Context and Inclusion: The Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on schools to support pupils with medical conditions. Many pupils with long-term medical conditions may also be considered disabled under the Equality Act 2010. If a pupil's learning difficulty or disability requires special educational provision (i.e., provision different from or additional to that normally available), they are considered to have Special Educational Needs (SEN). Where pupils have both a medical condition and SEN, their medical provision must be planned and delivered in a co-ordinated way with their special educational provision (SEN Support or EHC plan).

We aim to provide all children with medical conditions, the same opportunities as others at school.

Pupils with medical conditions are encouraged to take control of their condition if and when possible.

Participation of Young People: We recognise that the rights to make requests and decisions under the Children and Families Act 2014 transfer to the young person (over compulsory school age, i.e., after the last Friday in June of the academic year they turn 16). The school and Local Authority must ensure young people are involved in discussions and decisions about their individual support. The views, wishes, and feelings of the young person must be considered and given due weight according to their age, maturity, and capability.

Communication plan for staff, parents and other key stakeholders

Parents will be informed and regularly reminded about the medical conditions policy:

- at the start of the school year when communication is sent out about Healthcare Plans
- when their child is enrolled as a new pupil
- via the school's website

School staff are informed and will be regularly reminded about the medical conditions policy:

- through being discussed at a staff meeting
- at scheduled medical conditions training

Health staff working in school will be informed and reminded about the school's medical conditions policy:

- Via the school nurses

Staff understand and are trained in what to do in an emergency

All staff are aware of the most common serious medical conditions at this school. Staff at Fox Wood understand their duty to care for pupils in the event of an emergency. In an emergency school staff are required under common law duty of care to act like any reasonably prudent parent. This may include administering medication.

All staff who work with groups of pupils at Fox Wood receive training and know what to do in an emergency for the pupils in their care with medical conditions. Training is refreshed for all staff at least once a year.

Staff Expertise and Training Levels (In line with SEND Code of Practice):

The school ensures training for staff to secure expertise in supporting medical conditions and related SEN, structured at different levels:

1. **Awareness Level:** Training provided to **all staff** who encounter the pupil, giving a basic awareness of the condition and emergency procedures.
2. **Enhanced Level:** Training for staff working **directly and regularly** with the pupil, focusing on how to adapt teaching and learning to meet the specific needs.
3. **Specialist Level:** In-depth training for staff who will be advising and supporting those with enhanced-level skills and knowledge (e.g., the SENCO or Lead Health Professional).

Action for staff to take in an emergency for the common serious conditions is within Individual Health Care Plans (HCPs). This school uses HCPs to inform the appropriate staff (including supply teachers and support staff) of pupils in their care who may need emergency help. This school has procedures in place so that a copy of the pupil's HCP can be taken to the emergency care setting with the pupil.

Ongoing communication and review of Healthcare Plans

Parents at this school are regularly reminded to update their child's Health Care Plan if their child has a medical emergency or if there have been changes to their symptoms or their medication and treatments change.

Staff use opportunities such as EHC plan reviews (for pupils with statutory plans) or SEN Support reviews (for pupils receiving SEN Support), parents evening and home-school diaries to check that information held by the school on a pupil's condition is accurate and up to date.

Every pupil with a Health Care Plan at this school has their plan discussed and reviewed at least once a year. For pupils with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan, this annual HCP review must be aligned and co-ordinated with the statutory EHC plan annual review to ensure the provision remains appropriate and supports the outcomes specified in the EHC plan.

We also ensure we seek the views, wishes, and feelings of the young person (over compulsory school age) regarding the review of their HCP, recognising their statutory right to participate directly in decision-making.

School environment is inclusive

Physical environment We are committed to providing a physical environment that is accessible to pupils with medical conditions, this includes out-of-school visits. We adhere to the duty under the Equality Act 2010 to make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils to prevent them from being put at a substantial disadvantage.

Education and learning Fox Wood ensures that pupils with medical conditions can participate fully in all aspects of the curriculum and ensures that appropriate adjustments and extra support are provided.

Roles and responsibilities

Fox Wood works in partnership with all interested and relevant parties including the school's governing body, staff, parents, employers, community healthcare professionals and pupils to ensure the policy is planned, implemented and maintained successfully. The following roles and responsibilities are used for the medical conditions policy. These roles are understood and communicated regularly.

The school's employer (Local Authority) has a responsibility to:

- ensure the health and safety of their employees and anyone else on the premises or taking part in school activities (this includes all pupils). This responsibility extends to those staff and others leading activities taking place off-site, such as visits, outings or field trips
- ensure health and safety policies and risk assessments are inclusive of the needs of pupils with medical conditions
- make sure this policy is effectively monitored and evaluated and regularly updated
- report to parents, pupils, school staff and the local authority about the successes and areas for improvement of this school's medical conditions policy
- provide indemnity for staff who volunteer to administer medication to pupils with medical conditions.

The governors have a responsibility to:

- Take reasonable steps to make sure that the school follows the employer's policy and procedures through regular discussion at governance meetings.
- Ensure the governing body has oversight of the school's arrangements for SEN and disability, which includes the Medical Conditions Policy.
- Ensure staff receive adequate training to enable them to carry out their responsibilities.
- Promote a sensible approach to health and safety, making use of competent health and safety advice when required.

- Work in close partnership with the head teacher and senior management team to support sensible health and safety management and to challenge as appropriate.

The head teacher has a responsibility to:

- ensure the school is inclusive and welcoming and that the medical conditions policy is in line with local and national guidance and policy frameworks
- liaise between interested parties including pupils, staff, school nurses, parents, governors, the school health service, the Local Authority transport service, and local emergency care services
- ensure the policy is put into action with good communication of the policy to all
- ensure that information held by the school is accurate and up to date and that there are good information sharing systems in place using pupils' Health Care Plans
- ensure pupil confidentiality
- assess the training and development needs of staff and arrange for them to be met, ensuring expertise is secured at the required Awareness, Enhanced, and Specialist levels. This includes ensuring the SENCO is involved in advising staff on how medical needs intersect with educational needs and educational provision.
- monitor and review the policy at least once a year, with input from parents, staff, health staff and external stakeholders, and according to review recommendations and recent local and national guidance and legislation
- report back to key stakeholders about implementation of the medical conditions policy.