

Oaklands School



Medical Policy

Approved by:	Julie Smith	Date: 28.01.2024
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Last reviewed on:	February 2024
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Next review due by:	February 2025
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Oaklands School is an inclusive community that aims to support and welcome pupils with medical conditions.

- Oaklands School understands that it has 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.
- Oaklands School aims to provide all children with all medical conditions both physical and mental health received the same opportunities as others at school. We will help ensure they are:
 - Supported in school
 - Included in a full and active role within the school
 - Be healthy
 - Stay safe
 - Enjoy and achieve
 - Make a positive contribution
 - Achieve economic well being
- Oaklands School ensures all staff understand their duty of care to young children and young people in the event of an emergency.
- Oaklands School understands that certain medical conditions are serious and can be potentially life-threatening, particularly if ill managed or misunderstood.
- Oaklands School will ensure that there is a first aider on site at all times.
- The school will refer to 'Health and Safety: responsibilities and duties for schools (2018)' to assist with updating this policy, including advice to cover first aid for staff as well as pupils.

The medical conditions policy is supported by a clear communication plan for staff, parents and students to ensure its full implementation.

- Parents are informed about the school conditions policy:
 - At the start of the school year
 - In the school newsletter at intervals in the school year
 - When their child is enrolled as a new pupil
 - Via the schools website, where it is available all year round
- School staff are informed and reminded about the medical policy:
 - Via pupil's medical risk assessments
 - At scheduled medical conditions training

First Aid trained staff understand and are trained in what to do in an emergency for the most common serious medical conditions at this school

Staff

- All staff know what actions to take in the event of a medical emergency. This includes:
 - How to contact emergency services and what information to give
 - To contact a first aid member of staff or lead first aider
- Training is refreshed for first aiders at least every three years
- If a pupil needs to be taken to hospital, a member of staff will accompany them if parents are unavailable or school will ask the parent to meet ambulance at casualty.
- Staff should not take pupils to hospital in their own car.
- Staff must call an ambulance if they believe that an accident or illness is too serious to be dealt with by a first aider.
- Individual healthcare plans must be readily available to all staff

Children Self-Administering Medicines

- If a child is competent should be encouraged to take responsibility for managing their own medicines and procedures. This should be reflected in their individual healthcare plan.
- Whenever possible, children should be allowed to carry their own medicines and relevant devices or should be able to access their medicines for self-administration quickly and easily. Children who can take their own medicines themselves or manage procedures may require an appropriate level of supervision. If it is not possible for a child to self-manage, relevant staff should help to administer medicines and manage procedures.

Managing medicines at School

- Medicines should only be administered at school when it would be detrimental to a child's health or school attendance not to do so.
- No child under 16 should be given prescription or non-prescription medicines without their parents written consent.
- A child under 16 should never be given medicine containing aspirin unless prescribed by a doctor. Medication, e.g. for pain relief, should never be administered without first checking maximum dosages and when the previous dose was taken. Parents should be informed.
- Where clinically possible, medicines should be prescribed in dose frequencies which enable them to be taken outside school hours.
- Schools should only accept prescribed medicines if these are in date, labelled and provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include

instructions for administration, dosage and storage. A form must be completed by the parent.

- All medicines should be stored safely.
- When no longer needed, medicines should be returned to the parents to arrange for safe disposal.
- Staff administering medicines should do so in accordance with the prescriber's instructions. Schools should keep a record of all medicines administered to individual children, stating what, how and how much was administered, when and by whom. Any side effects of the medication to be administered at school should be noted in school.
- Only first aid trained staff may administer medicine.

Storage

- Any medicine not held by the student, must be kept in the lock cupboard in the medical room.
- All medical kit is to be checked monthly.
- If any medication needs to be fridged, this will be kept in the staff kitchen which is locked.

Healthcare plans

- Oaklands School uses a healthcare plan to record important details about individual children's medical needs at school, their triggers, signs, symptoms, medication and other treatments. These healthcare plans are held in the lead first aider office.
- A healthcare plan, accompanied by an explanation of why and how it is used, is sent to all parents of pupils with a long term medical condition. This is sent:
 - At the start of the school year
 - At enrolment
 - When a diagnosis is first communicated to the school
- If a pupil has a short-term medical condition that requires medication during school hours, a medication form plus explanation is sent home for completion.
- Parents are regularly reminded to inform the lead first aider if their child has a medical emergency or if there have been changes to their symptoms, or their medication and treatments change. This is to ensure the healthcare plans can be updated accordingly.

Education and learning

- All children with a medical condition should receive a full education and ensures appropriate adjustments and extra support are provided. No child should be denied admission due to their medical condition.
- All staff attending off site visits are aware of any pupils with medical conditions on the visit. They receive information about the type of condition, what to do in an emergency and any other additional support necessary, including additional medication or equipment needed.
- If a child has been off for a prolonged time then a reintegration programme needs to be implemented.
- Staff are aware of the potential for pupils with medical conditions to have special educational needs (SEN). Pupils with medical conditions who are finding it difficult to keep up with their studies are referred to the SEN coordinator. The school's SEN coordinator consults the pupil, parents and pupil's healthcare professional to ensure the effect of the pupil's condition on their schoolwork is properly considered.

Staff and Pupil Accident Forms

- There are accident books stored in the School Business Manager's office, which must be completed within 24 hours of an accident occurring. Parents must be informed on the day of the accident.

RIDDOR

- The school will refer to <https://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/> to ensure that it understands what and how to report injuries, diseases and dangerous occurrences in line with RIDDOR Regulations 2013

School Medical register

- Healthcare plans are used to create a centralised register of pupils with medical needs.
- Oaklands School ensures that the whole school environment is inclusive and favourable to pupils with medical conditions. This includes the physical environment, as well as social, sporting and educational activities

Physical environment

- This school is committed to providing a physical environment that is accessible to pupils with medical conditions.

Exercise and physical activity

- This school understands the importance of all pupils taking part in sports, games and activities.
- Oaklands School ensures make appropriate adjustments to sports, games and other activities to make physical activity accessible to all pupils.

- All staff are aware of pupils in their care who have been advised to avoid or take special precautions with particular activities.
- Oaklands School ensures staff are aware of the potential triggers for pupils' medical conditions when exercising and how to minimise these triggers.

Each member of the school and health community knows their roles and responsibilities in maintaining an effective medical conditions policy

- This school works in partnership with all interested and relevant parties including all school staff, parents, employers and community healthcare professionals to ensure the policy is planned, implemented and maintained successfully.
- The following roles and responsibilities are used for the medical policy at this school. These roles are understood and communicated regularly.

Oaklands School as an employer 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.
- Make sure the medical policy is effectively monitored and evaluated and regularly updated.
- Provide indemnity to staff who volunteer to administer medication to pupils with medical conditions.

Oakland's School's headteacher 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, school staff, special educational needs coordinators, pastoral support/welfare officers, teaching assistants, lead first aiders, parents and governors.
- Ensure the policy is put into action, with good communication of the policy to all.
- Ensure every aspect of the policy is maintained.
- Ensure information held by the school is accurate and up to date and that there are good information sharing systems in place using pupil's healthcare plans.
- Ensure pupil confidentiality.
- Assess the training and development needs of staff and arrange for them to be met.

- Ensure all supply staff and new teachers know the medical conditions policy.
- Update the medical policy at least once a year according to review recommendations and recent local and national guidance and legislation.

All staff at Oaklands School have a responsibility to :

- Be aware of the potential triggers, signs and symptoms of common medical conditions and know what to do in an emergency.
- Understand the medical policy.
- Know which students in their care have a medical condition.
- Allow all students to have immediate access to their emergency medication.
- Maintain effective communication with parents including informing them if their child has been unwell at school.
- Ensure pupils who carry their medication with them have it when they go on a school visit or out of the classroom.
- Be aware of pupils with medical conditions who may be experiencing bullying or need extra social support.
- Ensure all pupils with medical conditions are not excluded unnecessarily from activities they wish to take part in.
- Ensure pupils have the appropriate medication or food with them during any exercise and are allowed to take it when needed.

Teachers at this school have a responsibility to:

- Ensure students who have been unwell catch up on missed school work.
- Be aware that medical conditions can affect a pupil's learning and provide extra help when pupils need it.
- Liaise with parents, the pupil's healthcare professional and special educational needs coordinator if a student is falling behind with their work because of their condition.

The lead first aider at Oaklands School has a responsibility to:

- Update the schools medical conditions policy. · Provide regular training for school staff in managing the most common medical conditions in school.
- Provide information about where the school can access other specialist training. · Ensure healthcare plans are completed and reviewed annually. · Check medication

held in school annually for expiry dates and dispose of accordingly · Administer medication to students as prescribed.

First aiders at this school have a responsibility to:

- Give immediate help to casualties with common injuries or illnesses and those arising from specific hazards within the school.
- When necessary ensure that an ambulance or other professional medical help is called.
- The first aiders will be named on posters displayed around school.
- Their training will be updated every three years

SEN's at this school have a responsibility to:

- Help update the school's medical condition policy.
- Know which pupils have a medical condition and which have special educational needs because of their condition.
- Ensure teachers make the necessary arrangements if a pupil needs special consideration or access arrangements in exams or coursework.

Individual doctors and specialist healthcare professionals caring for students who attend this school, have a responsibility to:

- Where possible, and without compromising the best interests of the child, try to prescribe medication that can be taken outside of school hours.
- Ensure the child or young person knows how to take their medication effectively.
- Ensure children and young people have regular reviews of their condition and their medication.
- Provide the school with information and advice regarding individual children and young people with medical conditions (with the consent of the pupil and their parents).

The pupils at this school have a responsibility to:

- Treat other students with and without a medical condition equally.
- Tell their parents, teacher or nearest staff member when they are not feeling well.
- Let a member of staff know if another pupil is feeling unwell.
- Treat all medication with respect.

- Know how to gain access to their medication in an emergency.
- Ensure a member of staff is called in an emergency situation.

The parents of a student at this school have a responsibility to:

- Tell the school if their child has a medical condition.
- Ensure the school has a complete and up-to-date Healthcare plan for their child.
- Inform the school about the medication their child requires while taking part in visits, outings or field trips and other out-of-school activities.
- Tell the school about any changes to their child's medication, what they take, when and how much.
- Inform the school 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 school with appropriate spare medication labelled with their child's name.
- Ensure medication is within expiry dates.
- Keep child at home if they are not well enough to attend school. · Ensure their child catches up on any school work they have missed.
- Ensure their child has regular reviews about their condition with their doctor or specialist healthcare professional.

*The term 'parent' implies any person or body with parental responsibility such as foster parent or carer

Appendix 1 - Form 1 ALERT! Asthma awareness for school staff

What to do in an asthma attack

- Keep calm.
- Encourage the child or young person to sit up and slightly forward.
- Make sure the child or young person takes two puffs of reliever inhaler (usually blue) immediately – preferably through a spacer.
- Ensure tight clothing is loosened.
- Reassure the child.
- Ring student services and ask for a first aider to come to the student.
- If there is no immediate improvement
- Continue to make sure the child or young person takes one puff of reliever inhaler every minute for five minutes or until their symptoms improve.

Call 999 or a doctor urgently if:

- The child or young person's symptoms do not improve in 5–10 minutes.
- The child or young person is too breathless or exhausted to talk.
- The child or young person's lips are blue.
- You are in doubt.

Ensure the child or young person takes one puff of their reliever inhaler every minute until the ambulance or doctor arrives.

It is essential for people who work with children and young people with asthma to know how to recognise the signs of an asthma attack and what to do if they have an asthma attack.

Common signs of an asthma attack are:

- coughing
- shortness of breath
- wheezing
- tightness in the chest
- being unusually quiet
- difficulty speaking in full sentences
- sometimes younger children express feeling • tight in the chest as a tummy ache.

After a minor asthma attack

- Minor attacks should not interrupt the involvement of a pupil with asthma in school.
- When the pupil feels better they can return to school activities.
- The parents/carers must always be told if their child has had an asthma attack.

Important things to remember in an asthma attack

- Never leave a pupil having an asthma attack.
- If the pupil does not have their inhaler and/or spacer with them, send another teacher or pupil to their classroom or assigned room to get their spare inhaler and/or spacer.
- In an emergency situation school staff are required under common law, duty of care, to act like any reasonably prudent parent.
- Reliever medicine is very safe. During an asthma attack do not worry about a pupil overdosing.

- Send another pupil to get another teacher/adult if an ambulance needs to be called.
- Contact the pupil's parents or carers immediately after calling the ambulance/doctor.
- A member of staff should always accompany a pupil taken to hospital by ambulance and stay with them until their parent or carer arrives.

Appendix 1 – Form 2

Epilepsy awareness for school staff

Complex partial
seizures Common
symptoms

- The person is not aware of their surroundings or of what they are doing
- Plucking at their clothes
- Smacking their lips
- Swallowing repeatedly
- Wandering around

Ring the office and ask for a first aider to come to the student Call 999 for an ambulance if...

- You know it is the person's first seizure
- The seizure continues for more than five minutes
- The person is injured during the seizure
- You believe the person needs urgent medical attention

Do...

- Guide the person from danger
- Stay with the person until recovery is complete
- Be calmly reassuring

Don't...

- Restrain the person
- Act in a way that could frighten them, such as making abrupt movements or shouting at them
- Assume the person is aware of what is happening, or what has happened
- Give the person anything to eat or drink until they are fully recovered
- Attempt to bring them round
- Explain anything that they may have missed

Tonic-clonic
seizures Common
symptoms:

- the person goes stiff,
- loss of consciousness • falls to the floor

Do...

- Protect the person from injury (remove harmful objects from nearby)
- Cushion their head
- Look for an epilepsy identity card/identity jewellery
- Aid breathing by gently placing the person in the recovery position when the seizure has finished
- Stay with them until recovery is complete
- Be calmly reassuring

Don't...

- Restrain the person's movements
- Put anything in their mouth
- Try to move them unless they are in danger
- Give them anything to eat or drink until they are fully recovered
 - Attempt to bring them round Call 999 for an ambulance if...

- You know it is the person's first seizure
- The seizure continues for more than five minutes
- One seizure follows another without the person regaining consciousness between seizures
- The person is injured
- You believe the person needs urgent medical treatment

Appendix 1 – Form 3

Anaphylaxis awareness for staff ANAPHYLAXIS

Symptoms of allergic reactions:

Ear/Nose/Throat - Symptoms: runny or blocked nose, itchy nose, sneezing, painful sinuses, headaches, post nasal drip, loss of sense of smell/taste, sore throat/swollen larynx (voice box), itchy mouth and/or throat and blocked ears.

Eye - Symptoms: watery, itchy, prickly, red, swollen eyes. Allergic 'shiners' (dark areas under the eyes due to blocked sinuses).

Airway - Symptoms: wheezy breathing, difficulty in breathing and or coughing (especially at night time).

Digestion: swollen lips, tongue, itchy tongue, stomach ache, feeling sick, vomiting, constipation and or diarrhoea.

Skin: Urticaria - wheals or hives-bumpy, itchy raised areas and or rashes. Eczema - cracked, dry, weepy or broken skin. Red cheeks. Angiodema - painful swelling of the deep layers of the skin.

Symptoms of Severe Reaction/ Anaphylaxis:

These could include any of the above together with:

- Difficulty in swallowing or speaking.
- Difficulty in breathing -severe asthma
- Swelling of the throat and mouth
- Hives anywhere on the body or generalized flushing of the skin
- Abdominal cramps, nausea and vomiting
- Sudden feeling of weakness (drop in blood pressure)
- Alterations in heart rate (fast Pulse)
- Sense of Impending doom (anxiety/panic)
- Collapse and unconsciousness

TREATMENT

Radio and ask for first aider to come to student

Send a student or member of staff to Head Teacher to collect 2nd epipen and to ask them to ring for an ambulance and parents.

If student conscious keep them in an upright position to aid breathing. If unconscious then place in recovery position.

If student is conscious and alert ask them to self administer their epipen. If student unconscious, trained member of staff to administer epipen as per training. Record time of giving.

If no improvement within 5 minutes then 2nd epipen to be administered. Keep used epipens and give to paramedics when they arrive.

Appendix 1 – Form 4

Diabetes awareness and treatment for staff What is it? Abnormal fluctuations in blood sugar can lead to someone with diabetes becoming unwell and, if untreated, losing consciousness. There are two conditions associated with diabetes - **hyperglycaemia (high blood sugar)** and **hypoglycaemia (low blood sugar)**.

Hypoglycaemia is the more common emergency which affects brain function and can lead to unconsciousness if untreated.

Signs and symptoms: Hypoglycaemia:

- Hunger
- Feeling 'weak' and confused
- Sweating
- Dry, pale skin
- Shallow breathing

First aid aims Hypoglycaemia:

- Raise blood sugar level as quickly as possible
- Get casualty to hospital, if necessary

Treatment Hypoglycaemia:

- Sit casualty down
- If conscious, give them a sugary drink, chocolate or other sugary food
- If there's an improvement, offer more to eat or drink. Help the casualty to find their glucose testing kit to check their level. Advise them to rest and see their doctor as soon as possible.
- If consciousness is impaired, do not give them anything to eat or drink. Dial 999 for an ambulance

Hyperglycaemia:

Signs and symptoms: Hyperglycaemia:

- Thirst
- Vomiting
- Fruity/sweet breath
- Rapid, weak pulse

First Aid Aims:

- Get casualty to hospital as soon as possible

Treatment Hyperglycaemia:

Call 999 immediately

Further actions If the casualty loses consciousness

- Open airway and check breathing
- Place them in recovery position
- Prepare to give resuscitation

Complaints

Complaints will be dealt with in accordance with the school's complaints policy. Complaints relating to information handling may be referred to the Information Commissioner (the statutory regulator).

Review

This policy will be reviewed as it is deemed appropriate, but no less frequently than every 2 years. The policy review will be undertaken by the Head-teacher, or nominated representative.

Contacts

If you have any enquires in relation to this policy, please contact the School Administrator, who will also act as the contact point for any subject access requests.

Further advice and information is available from the Information Commissioner's Office, www.ico.gov.uk or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745.