

ASHCROFT HIGH SCHOOL MEDICAL POLICY

Philosophy

At Ashcroft we believe that all students have the right of an equal opportunity to reach their potential whatever their abilities or educational need. In order to do this, we aim to provide a positive and successful experience for all students.

Aims

The school aims to:

- Educate staff and students in respect of special medical needs.
- Adopt and implement the Local Authority policy of medication in schools.
- Arrange training for staff to support individual students.
- Liaise as necessary with medical services in support of the individual student.
- Ensure access to full education if possible. □ Monitor and keep appropriate records.

To achieve our aims we will: Ensure

the SENCO:

- Manages the day-to-day operation of the policy.
- Co-ordinates the provision for students with medical needs.
- Supports and will advise colleagues.
- Oversees the records of all students with medical conditions.
- Acts as the link with parents.
- Acts as the link with external agencies and other support agencies.
- Monitors and evaluates the medical needs provision, and reports to the governing body.
- Manages a range of resources, both human and material, to enable appropriate provision to be made for students with medical conditions.
- Contributes to the professional development of all staff.
- Delegates responsibilities to the relevant staff.

Ensure the Governing Body:

- Pays due regard to the Code of Practice when carrying out its duties towards all students with medical conditions.
- Takes into account that many medical conditions that require support at school will affect quality of life and may be life-threatening.
- Ensures that the focus is on the needs of each individual student and how their medical condition impacts on their school life.
- Does its best to secure the necessary provision for any student identified as having medical conditions.
- Ensures that all teachers are aware of the importance of providing for these students.
- Consults the Local Authority and other schools when appropriate, and reports annually to parents on the success of the school's policy for students with medical conditions.
- Ensures appropriate insurance arrangements are in place, which covers staff providing support to students with medical conditions.
- Shares arrangements for support with parents and students to provide effective support for medical conditions in school.
- Ensures that staff are properly trained to provide the support that students need.

Assess Student Needs:

- We will collaborate with other professionals, colleagues and parents to ensure a multi-agency approach, where appropriate.
- SENCO will work closely with parents and teachers to plan appropriate programmes of support.
- If medication is required on the premises these will be stored in a safe location with appropriate staff.
- Medication will only be administered by trained individuals.
- Assessment by trained specialists will support students to become as independent as possible, where relevant, to administer their own medication. This will be supervised by a trained member of staff.
- In an emergency, services will be called and parents notified.

What practice is not acceptable:

Although school staff should use their discretion and judge each case on its merits with reference to the student's individual healthcare plan, it is not generally acceptable practice to:

- Prevent students from easily accessing their inhalers and medication and administering their medication when and where necessary;

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- Assume that every student with the same condition requires the same treatment;
- Ignore the views of the student or their parents; or ignore medical evidence or opinion, (although this may be challenged).
- Send students 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 student becomes ill, send them to the school office or medical room unaccompanied or with someone unsuitable.
- Penalise students for their attendance record if their absences are related to their medical condition e.g. hospital appointments.
- Prevent students 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.
- Prevent students from participating, or create unnecessary barriers to students participating in any aspect of school life, including school trips, e.g. by requiring parents to accompany the child.

Ensure Access To The Curriculum:

- All students have an entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum, which is differentiated to enable them to: Understand the relevance and purpose of learning activities; experience levels of understanding and rates of progress that bring feelings of success and achievement.
- We support students in a manner that acknowledges their entitlement to share the same learning experiences that their peers enjoy. Wherever possible, we do not withdraw students from the classroom. There are times, though, when to maximise learning, we ask the students to work in small groups, or in a one-to-one situation outside the classroom.
- We support students to access extra curricular activities, wherever possible making them fully accessible, this may include accessible transport or additional support to access different facilities.
- Relevant and appropriate risk assessments will take place to ensure the safety of students.

Work In Partnership With Parents:

- The school works closely with parents in the support of those students with special medical conditions. We encourage an active partnership through an ongoing dialogue with parents. The home-school agreement is central to this. Parents have much to contribute to our support for students with special educational needs.
- Issues or concerns will be raised initially with the student's tutor and the relevant staff will be informed.
- Parents should provide the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs. They may in some cases be the first to notify the school that their child has a medical condition.
- Parents are key partners and should be involved 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.

Monitor And Review:

- The SENCO will monitor the students on the medical list, updating it on a termly basis.
- The SENCO will meet on a regular basis with the Deputy Headteacher to review the work of the school in this area.
- The SENCO will meet with the named governor with responsibility for medical conditions.
- The governing body reviews this policy annually and considers any amendments in the light of the annual review findings.
- The SENCO will report to the Headteacher who then reports back to the full governing body.

Success Criteria:

- Staff will know which students in their classes have medical conditions and how to support them.
- Staff will know what procedure to follow to ensure appropriate provision is made to meet the needs of a student with a medical condition.
- Parents will know what provision is being made and will be satisfied that the measures are appropriate.
- Students will be confident, make progress and regard their support as helpful and productive.
- Students will make progression into post-16 education, employment and training. □ The school will undertake regular reviews of the Medical Conditions Policy.

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