



Northern Lights
LEARNING TRUST

MEDICATION and FIRST AID **POLICY**

Review Date:	Spring 2022
Next review date:	Autumn 2024
Person in charge:	CEO Link
Director:	Chair of Board

Northern Lights Learning Trust

Signed off by: Chair of MAT Board

Date from: Spring 2022

Review Date: Spring 2024

Pastoral Care/Spiritual Development

The quality of relationships between all members of school staff and pupils, and the relationship with parents and carers is the area that is most commonly associated with the ethos of the schools in our Trust. It is expressed in the terms of sharing and caring. In the Church schools in our Trust, we follow the teachings of:

‘Love your neighbour as yourself’ – Matthew 22:39.

‘This is my commandment: love each other’ - John 15:17.

In our schools we believe every pupil is an individual who is valued for who they are. We have a series of overlapping networks of relationships, which includes governors, staff, children, parents, church members, and members of the community which the school seeks to serve. Our pastoral work will strive to meet the significant challenge to create and maintain such networks including in our Church schools in ways which reflect the Gospel. Those who are in leadership roles, which includes all who have a particular responsibility, ensure that by their personal example they set the highest standards expected.

It is from this premise that both Christian and spiritual love will pervade all aspects of life at Northern Lights Learning Trust. It will influence how we reward and teach discipline. It will affect how we value work and the achievements of pupils and staff. It will be seen in the way in which the school environments are created and cared for, in the way in which the needs of pupils, parents, and community are met, and in the way in which teaching and non-teaching staff work together effectively as a team. Pastoral care pervades all aspects of school life and therefore will be reflected in the way the schools are organised and the policies are written and implemented.

The Trust’s MEDICATION and first aid policy is part of the Trust’s pastoral and safeguarding system.

Please read in conjunction with the Statutory Guidance “Supporting Pupils at school with medical conditions.” [September 2014, August 2017] and Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage [September 2014]

Medication and First Aid Policy Statement

Rationale

Children and adults at schools within the Northern Lights Learning Trust need good quality first aid provision and access to medication. Clear and agreed systems should ensure that all children are given the same care and understanding in our schools. This care should extend to emergency first aid provision and the administration of medicines.

Northern Lights Learning Trust endeavours to ensure that all its pupils achieve success in their academic work, in their relationships and in their day to day experiences within our schools. Some of our pupils are likely to have medical needs which mean that additional measures are required, to ensure that they are enabled to have full access to the curriculum, that the impact of their medical difficulties upon their life in school is minimised as far as possible, and that all staff who work with the pupil understand the nature of their difficulties and how best to help them.

While there is no legal or contractual duty on teachers to administer medicines or supervise pupils taking their medicines, nevertheless we would wish to support our pupils where we can. Pupils with special medical needs have the same right of admission to school as other children and cannot be excluded from school on medical grounds alone.

Teachers and support staff are in loco parentis and may need to take swift action in an emergency, both in school and off site, for example during educational school visits.

The prime responsibility for a pupil's health lies with the parent or carer who is responsible for the pupil's medication and should supply the school with any relevant information.

Purpose to:

- assist parents in providing medical care for their children
- educate staff and pupils in respect of special medical needs
- adopt and implement any national or LA policies in relation to medication in schools
- arrange training for staff who volunteer to support individual pupils with special medical needs
- liaise as necessary with medical services in support of the pupil
- ensure that pupils with special educational need are enabled to access the full life of the school where possible
- maintain appropriate records

- give clear structures and guidelines to all staff regarding all areas of first aid and medicines
- clearly define the responsibilities and the staff
- enable staff to see where their responsibilities end
- ensure the safe use and storage of medicines in the school
- ensure the safe administration of medicines in the school
- ensure good first aid cover is available in the school and on educational visits

Guidelines

The policy is available for all staff during induction to our schools. This policy is regularly reviewed and updated. This policy has safety as its priority. Safety for the children and adults receiving first aid or medicines and safety for the adults who administer first aid or medicines.

Entitlement

The TRUST accepts that pupils with medical needs should be assisted if at all possible and that they have a right to the full education available to other pupils.

The TRUST believes that pupils with medical needs should be enabled to achieve full attendance and receive necessary proper care and support.

The TRUST accepts all employees have rights in relation to supporting pupils with medical needs in relation to:

- choosing whether or not become involved
- receiving appropriate training
- working to clear guidelines
- have concerns about legal liability
- bring any concerns they have about supporting pupils with medical needs to the management

For this reason the Trust has designated staff who have received training in administering medication to ensure all children are safe and have equal access to provision in all of our schools. There are very strict procedures in place in all schools, which are regularly reviewed.

Conclusion

The administration and organisation of first aid and medicines provision is taken very seriously within Northern Lights Learning Trust. There are annual procedures that check on the safety and systems that are in place in this policy. The schools also discuss its first aid and medicines procedures with the school nurse where appropriate. Adjustments are made immediately if necessary and may result in an individualised medical plan.

First aid in school

Training

There are a number of staff that are fully first aid trained in school. Other members of staff have had emergency first aid training. There is always a fully qualified first aider in school and where whole class visits take place a qualified first aider accompanies the visit, unless the place to where they are going has this provision. All first aiders attend updates and retraining courses as required.

Annually, the children in year 6 attend a half training session about an injury minimisation programme. During their final year, pupils in year 6 may receive training relating to Heart issues, including CPR training if provided within individual schools.

First aid kits are stored in the Medical Room, Nursery, After school club and the staff area.

Cuts

All open cuts should be covered after they have been cleaned. Plasters should be applied to those children where consent has been given. Children who are allergic to plasters will be given an alternative dressing. Minor scrapes do not need to be recorded in the accident book although children will be given a bump note if they have been seen by a first aider.

Any first aider can treat more severe cuts, but a fully trained first aider must attend the patient to give advice.

Minor cuts should be recorded in a way determined by each school.

Parents give their permission annually for their child to have plasters and cream, where parents have not given consent, the children's details are kept in the medical room and staff are made aware of this.

ANYONE TREATING AN OPEN CUT SHOULD USE RUBBER GLOVES. All blood waste is disposed of in the medical bin, located in the medical room or suitable alternative provision.

Bumped heads

Any bump to the head, no matter how minor is treated as serious. All bumped heads should be treated with an ice pack or cold water. A note will be sent home with the child. The child's teacher should be informed and keep a close eye on the progress of the child. ALL bumped head incidents should be recorded in the appropriate accident record.

Accident file

The accident file may be electronic or as a paper record in which case this is located in the medical room.

Each year there is a new file. Old files are stored in an appropriate place according to the retention schedule. For major accidents, the agreed accident form must be completed within 24 hours of the accident. These forms are located in the school offices. These forms need to be signed by the Headteacher and are to be considered if they are

RIDDOR reportable, and should be forwarded to the Trust Chief Finance Officer to be considered appropriately.

Calling the emergency services

In the case of major accidents, it is the decision of the fully trained first aider in consultation with the Headteacher if the emergency services are to be called. All staff are expected to support and assist the trained first aider in their decision. A mobile telephone is available in the medical room or other phones are allocated according to the provision in the school.

If a member of staff is asked to call the emergency services, they must,

1. State what has happened
2. The child's name
3. The age of the child
4. Whether the casualty is breathing and/or unconscious
5. The location of the individual academy

If the casualty is a child, their parents should be contacted immediately and given all the information required. If the casualty is an adult, their next of kin should be called immediately. All contact numbers for children and staff are located in the school office. All visitors and volunteers to school are required to complete a next of kin form in case of emergency whilst on the premises. The first aider and a member of the Senior Leadership team should accompany the child in a staff vehicle to hospital until the parent is able to meet with staff. If a parent is not available when the ambulance is leaving the school, a senior member of staff will accompany the child in the ambulance until the member of staff is able to meet with staff.

Medicines in School

Any staff who are able to administer medication should be identifiable within each academy and in the staff handbook.

What can be administered?

In school, we will administer medicines such as antibiotics, anti-histamine, cough mixture, throat lozenge, creams and paracetamol etc **only when it has been prescribed by a doctor and clearly labelled with the child's name and dosage requirements.**

There will be 2 members of staff present who will countersign to ensure that the medicine has been administered at the time stated, according to the Academy procedures to protect the safety of pupils and staff.

COUGH MIXTURE/THROAT LOZENGES

Will only be administered when it has been prescribed by the GP

PARACETAMOL

When it has been prescribed by the GP

CREAMS

We can administer creams for skin conditions such as eczema when it has been prescribed. HOWEVER, staff must not rub cream onto a child's body, unless agreed with the parents. With agreement, application of these creams must be made under the observation of another adult.

Parental permission

Medicines will not be administered unless we have the written consent of parents. A consent form must be filled in with a member of staff who is qualified to administer medication.

In the event of a child coming into school with medicines without a consent form being filled in, the medicine **will not** be administered.

Where medicine is stored No medicines should be kept in the class or in the child's possession (except inhalers). All medicines are kept in the medical room fridge or the locked cupboard, or the medical cabinet in the nursery. Administration of medicines takes place in the medical room or nursery office.

All medicines to be sent home during holidays or destroyed and locked cabinets left open in accordance with national procedures.

The Headteacher [or designated representative] must sign all new medicines into school.

Administration of medicines file

All medicine consent forms are to be kept. In all academies, there will be a current medication file which is kept in the medical room or other suitable place. Once medication is complete forms are transferred to the completed medication file. Old files are stored in the medical room or other suitable place.

Before administering medicines, staff should read the date entry section of the form to check that the medicine has not already been administered.

When medicine is administered, staff must complete the dated entry of this and countersigned.

Procedures are in place for when a child goes to after school club – the date and time of when the medication was administered is recorded on the medical room wall, so that the After School Supervisors will check before administering any further medication so that dosages are not exceeded.

Asthma and other medical problems

At the beginning of each academic year, any medical problems are shared with staff and a list of these children and their conditions is kept in the class register. New signs are made of children with severe medical problems such as allergies. These signs and notices [not photographs] are displayed in the medical room and all staff have a copy which is given to them at the beginning of the year.

Epipens and anaphylaxis shock training

Some children require epipens to treat the symptoms of anaphylaxis shock. Epipens are all kept centrally in the medical room inside the locked cupboard (as advised by safeguarding team).

Staff receive regular training on the use of epipens.

Children who require these epipens are listed with details - as above.

Inhalers

Children have their inhalers with them at all times. Key Stage 2 children are expected to take their inhalers with them whenever they do rigorous activity.

Key stage 1 children will keep their inhalers with their class teacher for safety.

OTHER ASTHMA SUFFERERS CANNOT SHARE INHALERS.

In the event of a child having an asthma attack, who has no inhaler, the parents must be sought quickly by phone to give permission for the administration of someone else's inhaler. If parents cannot be located, then the emergency services will be contacted and they would give permission for the sharing of the inhaler.

ONLY IN AN EMERGENCY.

Specialist Medication

- All children requiring specialist medication such as RITOLIN, EPIPENS, etc will be subject to a medical plan which will be signed off by consultants through the school nurse.
- These will be copied for staff and will accompany a child to hospital in the event of an emergency.