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THE CARDINAL VAUGHAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL

Amare et Servire

THE CARDINAL VAUGHAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL TRUST

SUPPORTING PUPULS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS POLICY

This policy and procedure was approved and adopted by The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School on 1 February 2021 and is reviewed annually.

THE CARDINAL VAUGHAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL

SUPPORTING PUPILS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS POLICY

The following policy should be read in conjunction with the School's Medication Policy.

Definition

Pupils' medical needs may be broadly summarised as being of two types:

- **Short-term**, affecting their participation in school activities while they are on a course of medication;
- **Long-term**, potentially limiting their access to education and requiring extra care and support.

School Ethos

Schools have a responsibility for the health and safety of pupils in their care. The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 makes employers responsible for the health and safety of employees and anyone else on the premises. In the case of pupils with special medical needs, the responsibility of the employer is to make sure that safety measures cover the needs of all pupils at the school. This may mean making special arrangements for particular pupils so that they can access their full and equal entitlement to all aspects of the curriculum. In this case, individual procedures may be required. The local governors are responsible for making sure that relevant staff know about and are, if necessary, trained to provide any additional support that pupils with medical conditions (long or short term) may need.

The Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on schools to make arrangements for children with medical conditions. Pupils with medical conditions have the same right of admission to school as other children and cannot be refused admission or excluded from school on medical grounds alone**.** However, teachers and other school staff in charge of pupils have a common law duty to act 'in loco parentis' and must ensure the safety of all pupils in their care. To this end, we reserve the right to refuse admittance to a child with an infectious disease, where there may be a risk posed to others or to the health of the child involved. This duty also extends to teachers leading activities taking place off the school site.

The prime responsibility for a child's health lies with the parent, who is responsible for the child's medication and must supply the school with all relevant information needed in order for proficient care to be given to the child. (Please see the School's Medication Policy for further details) The school takes advice and guidance from a range of sources, including the School Nurse, Health professionals and the child's GP in addition to the information provided by parents in the first instance. This enables us to ensure we assess and manage risk and minimise disruption to the learning of the child and others who may be affected (for example, other pupils).

Our Aims

- To support pupils with medical conditions, so that they have full access to education, including physical education and educational visits.
- To ensure that school staff involved in the care of children with medical needs are fully informed and adequately trained by a professional in order to administer support or give prescribed medication.
- To comply fully with the Equality Act 2010 for pupils who may have disabilities or special educational needs.
- To write, in association with healthcare professionals, Individual Healthcare Plans where necessary.
- To respond sensitively, discreetly and quickly to situations where a child with a medical condition requires support.
- To keep, monitor and review appropriate records.

Entitlement

The School will provide full access to the curriculum for every child wherever possible. We believe that pupils with medical needs have equal entitlement and must receive necessary care and support so that they can take advantage of this. However, we also recognise that employees have rights in relation to supporting pupils with medical needs, as follows:

Employees may:

- Choose whether or not they wish to be involved.
- Receive appropriate training.
- Work to clear guidelines.
- Bring to the attention of the Senior Leadership Team any concern or matter relating to the support of pupils with medical conditions.

Expectations

It is expected that:

- Parents will follow the guidance provided in the School's Medication Policy.

- School staff will liaise as necessary with Healthcare professionals and services in order to access the most up-to-date advice about a pupil's medical needs and will seek support and training in the interests of the pupil.
- Transitional arrangements between schools will be completed in such a way that Cardinal Vaughan will ask for full disclosure of relevant medical information, Healthcare plans and support needed from both parents, pupils and other schools.
- Individual Healthcare plans will be written, monitored and reviewed regularly and will include the views and wishes of the child and parent in addition to the advice of relevant medical professionals.

Procedure

The Risk Protection Arrangement covers the requirements for insurance.

Information

Staff will be provided with a medical booklet providing details of all children with medical conditions at the start of each academic year. This will be updated as appropriate during the course of the year.

In an emergency

In a medical emergency, the School's First Aiders will be asked to attend.

If an ambulance needs to be called, staff will:

- Outline the full condition and how it occurred
- Give details regarding the child's date of birth, address, parents' names and any known medical conditions.

Children will be accompanied to hospital by a member of staff if this is deemed appropriate. Parents must always be called in a medical emergency, but do not need to be present for a child to be taken to hospital.

Complaints

Should parents be unhappy with any aspect of their child's care at Cardinal Vaughan, they should discuss their concerns with the School; in the first instance, this will normally be with the Deputy Headteacher

responsible for children with medical conditions, who will, where necessary, bring concerns to the attention of the Head of School.