

Ellwood Community Primary School

Believe, Achieve, Belong



Medical and Medicine Policy

Date reviewed: September 2025

Next renew date: September 2027

Introduction

All staff and Governors at Ellwood Community Primary school have a responsibility for the health and safety of pupils in our 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 school 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 who may be more at risk than their classmates. In some cases, individual procedures may be required. The employer is responsible for making sure that relevant staff know about and are, if necessary, trained to provide any additional support these pupils may need. The Children and Families Act 2014, places a duty on schools to make arrangements for children with medical conditions.

Every child has the right to the best possible health. Pupils with special medical needs have the same rights of admission to the school as other children and cannot be refused admission or excluded from school on medical grounds.

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

- (a) Short-term affecting their participation in school activities, which they are on a course of medication.
- (b) Long-term potentially limiting their access to education and requiring extra care and support (deemed special medical needs).

Most children will at some time have short-term medical needs, perhaps being required to finish a course of medicine, such as antibiotics. Key Points from DfE Guidance – 'Supporting Pupils at school with Medical

Conditions - February 2014': Pupils at school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education.

Governing bodies must ensure that arrangements are in place in schools to support pupils at school with medical conditions. Governing bodies should ensure that school leaders and relevant staff consult health and social care professionals, pupils and parents to ensure that the needs of children with medical conditions are effectively supported.

School Responsibility

The Governing Body has overall responsibility for the implementation of the Administering Medication Policy and procedures of Ellwood Primary School.

The Governing Body has overall responsibility for ensuring that the Administering Medication Policy, as written, does not discriminate on any grounds, including but not limited to:

- ethnicity/national origin, culture, religion, gender, age, disability or sexual orientation.

The Governing Body has responsibility for handling complaints regarding this policy as outlined in the school's Complaints Policy.

The Governing Body has responsibility for ensuring the correct level of insurance is in place for the administration of medication.

Either the Headteacher or office staff will be responsible ensuring the day-to-day implementation and management of the Administering Medication Policy and procedures of Ellwood Primary School are adhered to.

Staff, including teachers, support staff and volunteers, will be responsible for implementing the agreed policy fairly and consistently.

Parents Responsibility

The parents of a pupil at Ellwood Primary have a responsibility to:

- Tell the school if their child has a medical condition.
- Ensure if the child has a medical condition, the school has a complete and up-to-date Healthcare plan for their child (example in Appendix 1).
- Provide and 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.
- If needed, provide the school with appropriate spare medication labelled with their child's name.
- Ensure medication is within expiry dates.
- Ensure their child has regular reviews about their condition with their doctor or specialist healthcare professional.
- Parents have the prime responsibility for their child's health and should provide schools with information about the child's medical condition. Medicines should only be taken to school when absolutely essential; that is where it would be detrimental to a child's health if the medicine were not administered during the school day. Where clinically appropriate, parents should ask for medicines to be prescribed in dose frequencies, which enable them to be taken outside school hours. Medicines that are required to be taken three times a day do not need to be administered in school.

Definitions

- Ellwood Community Primary School defines “medication” as any prescribed or over the counter medicine.
- Ellwood Primary School defines “prescription medication” as any drug or device prescribed by a doctor.
- Ellwood Primary School defines a “staff member” as any member of staff employed at Ellwood Primary School.

A 'Parental agreement for school to administer medicine' must be completed and given to the school. The 'Parental Consent Form' should be completed, so that the school are aware of what medicines are being taken. Whenever any medicine is administered this will be recorded. If this form is not received or signed by the school, then the school cannot administer any medicines. Medication will only be administered in school if the dosage cannot be reasonably administered at home e.g. 4 times a day.

Medication that can be administered

The school will only administer medicines that are either taken orally in the form of a tablet, liquid or inhaled in the form of a spray, which are in the original packaging, with the child's name shown on the pharmacist's label. The school will not accept any medicine that has been taken out of the container, as originally dispensed, nor make any changes to dosages on parental instructions. A child under 16 should never be given aspirin or medicines containing ibuprofen unless prescribed by a doctor.

Medication must be labelled, dated and in original container. Administering Medication KS2 pupils, whenever possible, should assume responsibility, under the instruction and support of the staff when taking the medicine.

EYFS and KS1 pupils may need more support to administer the medicine. Staff members may refuse to administer medicine if they are concerned or it feels unsafe.

The Headteacher will then seek to delegate to another staff member. Only trained staff can administer insulin.

Refusing Medication

If a child refuses to take medicine, staff will not force them to do so, but this will be noted and the parents informed at the end of the day. If a refusal to take medicine results in an emergency, the schools emergency procedure will be followed and parents notified.

Managing Prescriptions on Trips and outings

The school will consider what reasonable adjustments they can make to enable children with medical needs to participate fully and safely on visits.

Staff supervising excursions should always be aware of any medical needs, and relevant emergency procedures and parents will be contacted if needed. This includes external professionals and adults working with pupils.

Storage and return of unused medication

All medication will be stored in the School Office or fridge, unless needed to be accessed quickly and therefore can be stored in the classroom in a safe/secure cupboard. Any unused medicines/empty containers will be returned to the parents at the end of the day. Parents are contacted and asked to collect any out of date medication for them to take to a local pharmacy for safe disposal. We will only accept 4 weeks supply of medication.

Healthcare Plans

An Individual Healthcare Plan will be devised for any child who has a long-term or complex medical need e.g. diabetes.

Education, Health and Care Plan

An Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is provided if a pupil has special educational needs and disabilities and an assessment of education, health and social care needs has been agreed by a multiagency group of professionals.

First Aid

We have a number of Staff members who are trained in what to do in an emergency, for the most common medical conditions at school. We strive to ensure that all Teaching staff and Teaching assistants have basic first aid training, and a number of staff have Paediatric first aid training and 1 has first aid at work training.

Staff at Ellwood Primary School also understand their duty of care to pupils in the event of an emergency. In an emergency situation school staff are required under common law duty of care, to act like any reasonably prudent parent. This may include administering medication. If necessary, action for staff to take in an emergency for epilepsy/anaphylaxis and diabetes will be displayed in the Staff Room, relevant classroom, School Office and Kitchen area.

Emergency Procedures

In the event of an emergency the school will seek assistance either from the emergency services or GP. In addition to the information provided within this Policy, please refer to our Safeguarding Policies and First Aid Procedure.

Monitoring and Review

The Governing Body will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness.

Review: September 2025	By: Mrs Milford	Signed: Mrs Milford
Due to be Reviewed: September 2027		