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# Exemplar Health Care Needs Policy

(Based on Welsh Government Guidance Document 215/2017,  
Date of issue March 2017)

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Nichola Jones  
Head of Inclusion and Disabilities

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## Contact Details:

<b>Healthcare Needs Policy for</b> <i>(School Name)</i>	
<b>Date of Issue:</b>	
<b>Review Date:</b> <i>(Recommended by Welsh Government that the policy is reviewed annually)</i>	
<b>School Address and Postcode:</b>	
<b>School Telephone No:</b>	
<b>School Email Address:</b>	
<b>Website Address for this policy:</b> <i>(Insert if different address from school's main email address)</i>	
<b>Name of person responsible for maintaining this policy:</b>	

## Key principles

*WG Guidance stipulates that these principles are included.*

In developing this policy, the school has considered the following principles outlined in the Welsh Government statutory guidance '*Supporting learners with healthcare needs*' (March 2017):

- Staff should understand and work within the principles of inclusivity.
- Lessons and activities will be designed in a way which allows those with healthcare needs to participate fully.
- Staff should understand their role in supporting learners with healthcare needs and appropriate training should be provided.
- Staff should feel confident they know what to do in a healthcare emergency.
- Staff should be aware of the needs of their learners through the appropriate and lawful sharing of the individual learner's healthcare needs.
- Whenever appropriate, learners should be encouraged and supported to take responsibility for the management of their own healthcare needs.

## School's legal requirements

*WG Guidance states that:*

Governing bodies **must** have regard to the statutory guidance '*Supporting learners with healthcare needs*' (March 2017) when carrying out their duties in promoting the welfare of children who are learners at the school, including meeting their healthcare needs. The guidance also applies to activities taking place off-site as part of normal educational activities.

Section 21(5) of the Education Act 2002 places a duty on governing bodies to promote the well-being of learners at the school so far as related to the matters mentioned in section 25(2) of the Children Act 2004, which includes physical and mental health and emotional well-being, education, training and recreation, and social well-being.

All learners with healthcare needs are entitled to a full education. In addition to the duties set out above (Education Act 2002), consideration must also be given to whether the learner is defined as disabled under the Equality Act 2010. Governing bodies must comply with the duties of this Act, including those within

an education context. For example, reasonable adjustments for disabled learners must be made and disabled learners must not be discriminated against when making admission arrangements. In drafting the statutory guidance and advice, the Welsh Ministers have had regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

Governing bodies must have regard for the Data Protection Act 1998. This regulates the processing of personal data, which includes the holding and disclosure of it. If learners are prescribed controlled drugs, the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 will also be applicable.

## Roles and responsibilities

*This information has been taken from the WG Guidance:*

The **Governing Body** should oversee the development and implementation of arrangements for learners with healthcare needs. This includes:

- complying with applicable statutory duties, including those under the Equality Act 2010
- having a statutory duty to promote the well-being of learners, e.g. by providing learners access to information and material aimed at promoting spiritual and moral well-being and physical and mental health (Article 17 of the UNCRC)
- considering how they can support learners to develop the skills, knowledge and emotional resilience required to uphold their rights, and the rights of others
- ensuring the roles and responsibilities of all those involved in the arrangements to support the healthcare needs of learners are clear and understood by all those involved, including any appropriate delegation of responsibilities or tasks to a headteacher, member of staff or professional as appropriate
- working collaboratively with parents and other professionals to develop healthcare arrangements to meet the best interests of the learner
- developing and implementing effective arrangements to support learners with healthcare needs. This should include, where appropriate, Individual Healthcare Plans for particular learners
- ensuring arrangements are in place for the development, monitoring and review of the healthcare needs arrangements
- ensuring the arrangements are in line with other relevant policies and procedures, such as health and safety, first aid, risk assessments, the

Data Protection Act 1998, safeguarding measures and emergency procedures

- ensuring robust systems are in place for dealing with healthcare emergencies and critical incidents, for both on- and off-site activities, including access to emergency medication such as inhalers or adrenaline pens
- ensuring staff with responsibility for supporting learners with healthcare needs are appropriately trained
- ensuring appropriate insurance cover is in place, any conditions are complied with and staff are clear on what this means for them when supporting learners
- having an infection prevention policy that fully reflects the procedures laid out in current guidance as detailed at [www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/888/home](http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/888/home)

The **Headteacher** should ensure that arrangements to meet the healthcare needs of their learners are sufficiently developed and effectively implemented. This includes:

- working with the governing body to ensure compliance with applicable statutory duties when supporting learners with healthcare needs, including duties under the Equality Act 2010
- ensuring the arrangements in place to meet a learner's healthcare needs are fully understood by all parties involved and acted upon, and such actions maintained. The day-to-day management of a learner's healthcare needs may be delegated to another member of staff but the headteacher will directly supervise this arrangement
- ensuring the support put in place focuses on and meets the individual learner's needs
- extending awareness of healthcare needs across the education setting in line with the learner's right to privacy. This may include support, catering and supply staff, governors, parents and other learners
- when appropriate, appointing a named member of staff who will be responsible for learners with healthcare needs, liaising with parents, learners, the local authority and others involved in the learner's care
- ensuring a sufficient number of trained staff are available to implement the arrangements set out in all Individual Healthcare Plans, including contingency plans for emergency situations and staff absence
- having the overall responsibility for the development of Individual Healthcare Plans

- ensuring that learners have an appropriate and dignified environment to carry out their healthcare needs, e.g. private toilet areas for catheterisation
- checking with the local authority whether particular activities for supporting learners with healthcare needs are appropriately covered by insurance and making staff aware of any limits to the activities that are covered
- ensuring all learners with healthcare needs are appropriately linked with the school nurse service
- ensuring when a learner participates in a work experience placement or similar, that appropriate healthcare support has been agreed and put in place *(for secondary schools)*
- providing annual reports to the governing body on the effectiveness of the arrangements in place to meet the healthcare needs of learners
- ensuring all learners with healthcare needs are not excluded from activities they would normally be entitled to take part in without a clear evidence-based reason
- notifying the local authority when a learner is likely to be away from the education setting for more than three weeks due to their healthcare needs
- being mindful of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 by ensuring that assistance to learners is provided using a holistic approach

Any **staff member** may be asked to provide support to learners with healthcare needs, including assisting or supervising the administration of medicines. This includes:

- **Teachers, support staff and other members of staff**
- **Designated members of staff who support learners with healthcare needs**
- **School first aiders**

However, this role is entirely voluntary and staff members will receive sufficient and suitable training and achieve the necessary level of competence before they take on the responsibility. The administration and supervision of medication will form part of their contract, terms and conditions or a mutually agreed job plan. The school will ensure that the staff involved:

- fully understand the school's healthcare needs policies and arrangements
- are aware of which learners have more serious or chronic healthcare needs, and, where appropriate, are familiar with these learners' Individual Healthcare Plans. This includes knowing how to communicate with parents and what the triggers for contacting them are, such as when the

learner is unwell, refuses to take medication or refuses certain activities because of their healthcare needs

- are aware of the signs, symptoms and triggers of common life-threatening medical conditions and know what to do in an emergency. This includes knowing who the first aiders are and seeking their assistance if a medical emergency takes place
- fully understand the school's emergency procedures and be prepared to act in an emergency
- ask and listen to the views of learners and their parents, which should be taken into consideration when putting support in place
- ensure learners (or their friends) know who to tell if they feel ill, need support or changes to support
- listen to concerns of learners if they feel ill at any point and consider the need for medical assistance (especially in the case of reported breathing difficulties)
- make sure learners with healthcare needs are not excluded from activities they wish to take part in without a clear evidence-based reason, including any external trips/visits. This includes ensuring learners have access to their medication and that an appropriately trained member of staff is present to assist where required
- are aware of bullying issues and emotional well-being regarding learners with healthcare needs, and are prepared to intervene in line with the school's policy
- are aware that healthcare needs can impact on a learner's ability to learn and highlight the possible need for extra help
- ensure that learners who have been absent are assisted in catching up on missed work
- keep parents informed of how the healthcare need is affecting the learner in school. This may include reporting any deterioration, concerns or changes to learner or staff routines.

**Parents/carers** should be actively involved in the planning of support and management of healthcare needs. They should:

- receive updates regarding healthcare issues/changes that occur within the school
- be involved in the creation, development and review of the Individual Healthcare Plan (if any). They should be fully involved in discussions about how the learner's healthcare needs will be met in the education setting, and contribute to the development of, and compliance with, their Individual Healthcare Plan

- provide the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about healthcare needs, including any guidance regarding the administration of medicines and/or treatment from healthcare professionals. Where appropriate, learners will be encouraged and enabled to manage their own healthcare needs
- inform the school of any changes such as type of medication, dosage or method of administration
- provide relevant in-date medicines, correctly labelled, with written dosage and administration instructions
- ensure a nominated adult is contactable at all times and all necessary forms are completed and signed
- inform the school if their child has/had an infectious disease or condition while in attendance.

As with parents/carers, **learners** should be actively involved in the planning of support and management of healthcare needs. In addition to the above, the learner will, where possible:

- inform their parent/carer or staff member if they feel unwell
- take care when carrying medicines to and from school, and not share them with others
- take part in discussions around sharing/confidentiality of personal information.

The school will work with the **local authority** to ensure that the legal duties and requirements are met in regard to learners with healthcare needs. This would include making reasonable adjustments for learners with disabilities, promoting co-operation between various bodies or professionals, ensuring learners with healthcare needs receive a suitable education, and ensuring that support specified within an Individual Healthcare Plan can be delivered effectively.

The school will work with the **NHS Wales school health nursing service** who may be able to offer advice relating to:

- the development of Individual Healthcare Plans
- the identification of the training required for the school to successfully implement Individual Healthcare Plans

- supporting staff to implement a learner's Individual Healthcare Plan through liaison with other healthcare, social care and third sector professionals.

Health advice and support will also be accessed through other specialist health professionals including GPs, paediatricians, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, dieticians and diabetes specialist nurses.

## Creating an accessible environment

*This part of the policy will need to outline how your school is inclusive and accessible to your learners with healthcare needs, including:*

- *physical access to school building/s;*
- *reasonable adjustments – auxiliary aids or services;*
- *day trips and residential visits;*
- *social interactions e.g. clubs and social activities;*
- *exercise and physical activity;*
- *food management; and*
- *undertaking any necessary risk assessments*

*Examples of the type of information that can be included is given below and reflects the content of the WG Guidance but schools may prefer to change this for details that relate specifically to their setting:*

**Physical access to school buildings** – In compliance with the Equality Act 2010, the school will prepare and maintain an accessibility plan which will relate to a prescribed period, be consulted upon, available for inspection and kept under review.

**Reasonable adjustments–auxiliary aids or services** – In compliance with the Equality Act 2010, the school will make 'reasonable adjustments' for learners who are disabled as defined by the Act. Where appropriate, advice will be taken about the use of auxiliary aids or services.

**Day trips and residential visits** – The Governing Body will ensure the school actively supports all learners with healthcare needs to participate in trips and visits. They will ensure that the school makes reasonable adjustments to trips and residential visits ensuring full participation from all learners. Staff will be made aware of how a learner's healthcare needs may impact on participation, and seek to accommodate any reasonable adjustments which would increase

the level of participation by the learner. Consideration will be given to how to accommodate the sharing of personal information with third parties if necessary for off-site activities (in compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and in respecting the learner's right to privacy). This may include information about the healthcare needs of learners, what to do in an emergency and any additional support, medication or equipment needed.

**Social interactions** – The Governing Body will ensure that the involvement of learners with healthcare needs is adequately considered in structured and unstructured social activities, such as breaktimes, breakfast club, school productions, after-hours clubs and residential visits. Staff will be made aware of the social barriers learners with healthcare needs may experience and how this can lead to bullying and social exclusion.

**Exercise and physical activity** – The school understands the importance of all learners taking part in physical activities and will make appropriate adjustments to sports and other activities to make them accessible to all learners, including after-hours clubs and team sports. If necessary, guidance will be sought when considering how participation in sporting or other activities may affect learners with healthcare needs. The school will endeavour to avoid having separate 'special provisions' for particular activities and there will be an emphasis on activities made accessible for all. Where this might not be possible, advice will be requested from healthcare or physical education professionals and the learner. Staff will also be made aware that it may be appropriate for some learners with healthcare needs to have medication or food with them during physical activity; such learners will be encouraged to take the medication or food when needed.

**Food management** – Consideration will be given to dietary needs of learners and menus will be given to parents and learners, with complete lists of ingredients and nutritional information. For learners where a high calorific intake is required, there will always be access to glucose-rich food and drinks. Food provided for trips will reflect the dietary and treatment needs of the learners taking part. Learners needing to eat or drink as part of their condition will not be excluded from the classroom.

**Undertaking risk assessments** – Staff should be advised when a risk assessment is in place and when one may be required. The assessments will start from the premise of inclusion and have built into them a process of seeking adjustments or alternative activities rather than separate provision.

## Sharing information

*This part of the policy will need to outline how your school will communicate information effectively and confidentially, including with:*

- *teachers, supply teachers and support staff (this may include other staff such as catering staff or relevant contractors)*
- *parents/carers and learners.*

*Examples of the type of information that can be included is given below and reflects the content of the WG Guidance but these can be changed for information that relates specifically to your school:*

The Governing Body will ensure healthcare needs arrangements, both wider school policies and Individual Healthcare Plans, are clearly communicated to staff, parents and other key stakeholders to ensure full implementation. All information will be kept up to date and all information-sharing techniques such as staff noticeboards and school intranet will be agreed by the learner and parent in advance of being used, to protect confidentiality.

Information relating to learners with medical needs will be easily accessible for **teachers, supply teachers and support staff (this may include catering staff and relevant contractors)**. Following appropriate consent, the information will be displayed on a noticeboard in the staff room. This noticeboard will be used to display information on high-risk health needs, first aiders and certificates, emergency procedures, etc. **OR** Following appropriate consent, the information will be held within the school's secure intranet area and staff meetings will be used to help ensure staff are aware of the healthcare needs of learners they have or may have contact with.

**Parents and learners** will be active partners, and to achieve this the school will make parents fully aware of the care their children receive. Parents and learners will also be advised of their own rights and responsibilities. To help achieve this school will:

- make healthcare needs policies easily available and accessible, online and in hard copy
- provide the learner/parents with a copy of their information sharing policy, stating the type of bodies and individuals with whom the learner's medical information may be shared

- ask parents to sign a consent form which clearly details the bodies, individuals and methods through which their learner's medical information will be shared. The learner will be involved in any decision making. The school will maintain a list of what information has been shared with whom and why. The learner/parent will be able to view this on request
- consider including a weblink to the healthcare needs policies in relevant communications sent to parents, and within the learner's Individual Healthcare Plan
- include school councils, 'healthy schools' and other learner groups in the development of the school's healthcare needs arrangements, where appropriate
- consider how friendship groups and peers may be able to assist learners, e.g. they could be taught the triggers or signs of issues for a learner, know what to do in an emergency and who to ask for help. If this is being considered, the school will discuss with the learner and parents first to decide if information can be shared

## Procedures and record keeping for the management of learners' healthcare needs

*The school will need to state here the names/roles/responsibilities of all staff involved in the identification, management and administration of healthcare needs. Examples of templates that can be used are in Annex 2 of the Guidance Document and are included in Appendix 1 of this policy. In addition to the staff names, the following should be noted:*

The following documentation should be collected and maintained for the learner, where appropriate:

1. Contact details for emergency services
2. Parental agreement for educational setting to administer medicine
3. Head of educational setting agreement to administer medicine
4. Record of medicine stored for and administered to an individual learner
5. Record of medicines administered to all learners by date\*
6. Request for learner to administer own medicine
7. Staff training record – administration of medicines
8. Medication incident report

Samples of these forms/templates are included in Appendix 1. New records will be completed when there are changes to medication or dosage. The school will clearly mark old documents as being no longer relevant and these will be stored in line with the Information Retention Policy and the Data Protection Act 1998.

\*Document 5, *Record of medicines administered*, will also detail if the learner has refused to take their medication.

## Storage, access and the administration of medication and devices

*The school will have its own policies and procedures for storage etc but the general principles outlined in the WG Guidance are noted as being good practice in this area:*

**Supply of medication or devices** – The school should not store surplus medication and parents will be asked to provide appropriate supplies. These should be in their original container, labelled with the name of the learner, medicine name, dosage and frequency, and expiry date. The school will only accept prescribed medicines and devices that:

- are in date
- have contents correctly and clearly labelled
- are labelled with the learner's name
- are accompanied with written instructions for administration, dosage and storage
- are in their original container/packaging as dispensed by the pharmacist (with the exception of insulin which is generally available via an insulin pen or a pump).

Where non-prescribed medicine is held by the school, e.g. liquid paracetamol, it should:

- be in date
- have its contents correctly and clearly labelled
- be labelled with the learner's name
- be accompanied with written instructions for administration, dosage and storage – this can be from the parent
- be in its original container/packaging.

**Storage, access and disposal** – While all medicines should be stored safely, the type and use of the medication will determine how this takes place. The learner will be told where their medication is stored and how to access it.

- **Refrigeration:** For medicines that need to be refrigerated, the refrigerator temperature will need to be regularly monitored to ensure it is in line with storage requirements. Food may also be stored in the refrigerator but the medicines will be kept in an airtight container and clearly labelled. Consideration will be given to using a lockable medical refrigerator if there is a need to store large quantities of medicine. **OPTIONAL FOR LARGER SCHOOLS**
- **Emergency medication:** Emergency medication will be readily available to learners who require it at all times during the day or at off-site activities. Medicines and devices such as asthma inhalers, blood glucose testing meters and adrenaline auto-injectors (pens) will be readily available to learners and not locked away. Particular consideration will be given to this when outside of the school premises, e.g. on trips. If the emergency medication is a controlled drug, it will be kept as securely as possible so as to minimise the risk of unauthorised access while also allowing quick access if this might be necessary in an emergency. For example, keys will not be held personally by a member of staff. A learner who has been prescribed a controlled drug may legally have it in their possession, if they are competent to do so, and they must not pass it to another learner or other unauthorised person. Monitoring may be necessary. Where staff administer emergency medication to a learner, this will be recorded.
- **Non-emergency medication:** All non-emergency medication will be kept in a secure place with appropriate temperature or light controls. If it is a controlled drug, additional security measures and controls will be put into place.
- **Disposal of medicines:** When no longer required, medicines will be returned to parents to arrange safe disposal. Sharp boxes will always be used for the disposal of needles and other sharp instruments, and disposed of appropriately.

## Administration of medicines

- Where the learner is under 16, assistance or administration of prescribed or non-prescribed medicines requires written parental consent, unless Gillick competence is recorded. The administration of all medication will be recorded.
- Where medication is prescribed to be taken in frequencies which allow the daily course of medicine to be administered at home, parents should seek to do so, e.g. before and after school and in the evening. There will be instances where this is not appropriate.
- Learners under 16 will never be given aspirin or its derivatives unless prescribed to them.

- Unless there is an agreed plan for the learner to self-medicate (16 years and above or Gillick competent), all medication will be administered by a member of staff. In other cases, it may need to be supervised in accordance with the Individual Healthcare Plan.
- Medication will only be administered by suitably trained staff. The movement and location of these trained staff will take into account the location of the learners they support.
- Staff will check the maximum dosage and the amount and time of any prior dosage administered.
- Certain medical procedures may require administration by an adult of the same gender as the learner, and may need to be witnessed by a second adult. The learner's thoughts and feelings regarding the number and gender of those assisting will be considered when providing intimate care. There is no requirement in law for there to be more than one person assisting and this will be agreed and reflected in the Individual Healthcare Plan and risk assessment.
- The school will follow its Intimate Care Policy unless alternative arrangements have been agreed and recorded in the learner's Individual Healthcare Plan.
- If a learner refuses their medication, staff will record this and follow the defined procedures informing parents as soon as possible. If a learner misuses any medication, their parents will be informed as soon as possible. The school will ask parents to seek healthcare advice as appropriate. If parents cannot be contacted immediately, staff will consider seeking immediate healthcare advice.
- Staff involved in the administration of medication will be made familiar with how learners consent to treatment. Further information on this from the Welsh Government can be found in the Patient Consent to Examination and Treatment – Revised Guidance (NHS, 2008).
- All staff supporting off-site visits will be made aware of learners who have healthcare needs. They will receive the required information to ensure staff are able to facilitate an equal experience for the learner. This information may include health and safety issues, what to do in an emergency and any other additional necessary support that the learner requires, including medication and equipment.

## Emergency procedures

*Schools will need to outline their emergency procedures here – noting:*

- *what to do in an emergency situation*
- *who is responsible for the emergency procedure*
- *nominated first aider/s contact details*
- *location of healthcare needs records and emergency contact details (e.g. parents/carers)*

*The introduction to this section could include the following details:*

The Governing Body will ensure that a policy is in place for handling emergency situations. Staff will be advised who is responsible for the policy, nominated first aiders and how to deal with common healthcare needs. In situations requiring emergency assistance, 999 will be called immediately. Staff will be advised of the location of learners' healthcare records and emergency contact details.

Where a learner has an Individual Healthcare Plan, the plan will clearly define what constitutes an emergency and explain what to do in these circumstances. Staff will be made aware of emergency symptoms and procedures.

Other learners in the school will also be advised, in general terms, what to do in an emergency, such as to inform a member of staff immediately. If a learner needs to be taken to hospital, a staff member will stay with the learner until a parent arrives. This includes accompanying them in an ambulance to hospital. The member of staff will be given details of any known healthcare needs and medication.

## Training

*Schools should ensure they note:*

- *how school will raise awareness of common conditions*
- *how a sufficient number of staff will be identified and supported*
- *relevant training being accessed to ensure staff are competent and confident to support learners*
- *procedures for keeping up-to-date records of date and name of training, trainers, trainees, certificates, informing the LA –process for ensuring training is kept up-to-date;*

*–making new and temporary staff aware of healthcare needs  
–ensuring all staff have a basic awareness of common medical conditions to recognise symptoms and understand how to seek appropriate assistance.*

*The following information could form the basis of an introduction to this section.*

The Governing Body will ensure that staff who volunteer or who are contracted to support those with healthcare needs are provided with appropriate training.

When assisting learners with their healthcare needs, the school recognises that for many interventions no specialist training is required and the role of staff is to facilitate the learner to meet their own healthcare needs.

Where the Individual Healthcare Plans reflects complex needs requiring staff to have specific information and training, school will ask these services and/or the local authority to provide advice suitable for the school as well as learners and families.

All staff, irrespective of whether they have volunteered to assist or support learners with healthcare needs, may come into contact with learners who have healthcare needs. All staff will therefore have a basic understanding of common conditions to ensure recognition of symptoms and understand where to seek appropriate assistance.

## Qualifications and assessments

*Schools will need to insert information about their own arrangements in this section. Welsh Govt recommends:–*

- *outline how school will provide effective support for learners who require EOTAS due to healthcare needs*
- *outline your procedures for supporting learners with healthcare needs undertaking qualifications and assessments, including:*
  - *when exams need to be taken away from the school, e.g. at home;*
  - *special arrangements from awarding bodies*
  - *adjustments, adaptations or additional time required.*

## School transport

If school transport is being considered for a learner with medical needs, the local authority's Inclusion Service will be contacted.

## Reviewing policies, arrangements and procedures

The Governing Body will ensure all policies, arrangements and procedures are reviewed regularly by the school. Individual Healthcare Plans will be reviewed as necessary. Frequency will depend on factors such as the healthcare need, changes in the condition or in medication. These reviews will involve key stakeholders including, where appropriate, the learner, parents, education and health professionals and other relevant bodies.

## Insurance arrangements

*The school can outline their insurance arrangements here. The paragraph in the Welsh Government Guidance states:*

The Governing Body should ensure an appropriate level of insurance is in place to cover the setting's activities in supporting learners with healthcare needs. The level of insurance will appropriately reflect the level of risk. Additional cover may need to be arranged for some activities, e.g. off-site activities for learners with particular needs.

## Complaints procedure

*Note: Summarise your school's complaints procedure and insert here.*

## Individual healthcare plans (IHPs)

*Schools should outline how they will create an IHP, including:*

- *the purpose of an IHP*
- *when an IHP is appropriate*
- *what the IHP will cover*
- *responsibilities and roles around creation of an IHP*

*Information from the WG Guidance document is given below but schools may want to adapt this to link in with their existing processes.*

An Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) sets out what support is required by a learner. They do not need to be long or complicated. (*Note: Insert staff member's name*) has overall responsibility for the development of the IHPs. IHPs are essential where healthcare needs are complex, fluctuating, long term or where there is a high risk that an emergency intervention will be needed. However, not all learners with healthcare needs require an IHP and the following diagram outlines the process school will follow for identifying whether an IHP is needed.

### **Identify learners with healthcare needs**

- Learner is identified from enrolment form or other route **or** the parent/learner informs school of healthcare need.
- For learners new to the school, transition discussions are held in good time, e.g. eight weeks before either the end of term or moving to a new education setting.



### **Gather information**

- If there is potential need for an IHP, the school will discuss this with the parent and learner.



### **Establish if an IHP should be made**

- The school will organise a meeting with appropriate staff, the parents, the learner and appropriate Health staff to confirm if the learner's healthcare needs require an IHP. If agreement cannot be reached, the headteacher will take the final decision and, if necessary, this can be challenged through the school's complaints procedure.



### **If an IHP should be made**

- The school, under the guidance of the appropriate healthcare professionals, parents and the learner, will develop the IHP in partnership.
- The school will identify appropriate staff to support the learner, including identifying any training needs and the source of training, and implement training.
- The school will circulate the IHP to all appropriate individuals.
- The school will set an appropriate review date and define any other triggers for review.

The IHP will explain how the learner's needs can be met. It will be easily accessible to all who need to refer to it, while maintaining the required levels of privacy. Each plan will capture key information and actions required to support the learner effectively. The development of detailed IHPs may involve:

- the learner
- the parents
- input or information from previous setting or school
- appropriate healthcare professionals
- social care professionals
- the headteacher and/or delegated responsible individual for healthcare needs across the setting
- teachers and support staff, including catering staff
- any individuals with relevant roles such as a first aid coordinator, a well-being officer, and additional learning needs coordinator (ALNCo).

The plan will be tailored to each individual learner but, in general, it may include:

- details of the healthcare need and a description of symptoms
- specific requirements such as dietary requirements, pre-activity precautions (e.g. before physical education classes)
- medication requirements, e.g. dosage, side effects, storage requirements, arrangements for administration
- an impact statement (jointly produced by a healthcare professional and a teacher) on how the learner's healthcare condition and/or treatment affects their learning and what actions are required to address these effects
- actions required
- emergency procedures and contact details
- the role the school can play, e.g. a list of things to be aware of
- review dates and review triggers
- roles of particular staff, e.g. a contact point for parents, staff responsible for administering/supervising medication, and arrangements for cover in their absence
- consent/privacy/sensitive information-sharing issues
- staff training needs, such as with regard to healthcare administration, aids and adaptive technologies
- record keeping – how it will be done, and what information is communicated to others
- home-to-school transport – this is the responsibility of the local authority, who may find it helpful to be aware of the learner's IHP, especially in respect of emergency situations.

The aim of the plan is to capture the steps which need to be taken to help a learner manage their condition and overcome any potential barriers to participating fully in education. A lead person will be agreed, but responsibility for ensuring it is finalised and implemented rests with school.

The Governing Body will ensure the plans are reviewed at least annually or more frequently should there be new evidence that the needs of the learner have changed. The plan will be developed with the best interests of the learner in mind and ensure the school, with specialist services (if required), assess the risks to the learner's education, health and social well-being.

Where a learner has Additional Learning Needs the IHP will be linked or attached to any individual education/development plan or statement.

## **Unacceptable practice**

As detailed in Welsh Government Guidance, it is not acceptable practice to:

- prevent learners from attending an education setting due to their healthcare needs, unless their attending the setting would be likely to cause harm to the learner or others
- prevent learners from easily accessing their inhalers or other medication, and prevent them from taking their medication when and where necessary
- assume every learner with the same condition requires the same treatment
- ignore the views of the learner or their parents, or ignore healthcare evidence or opinion (although these views may be queried with additional opinions sought promptly)
- send learners with healthcare needs home frequently or prevent them from staying for normal activities, including lunch, unless this is suitably specified in their Individual Healthcare Plan
- send a learner who becomes ill or needs assistance to a medical room or main office unaccompanied or with someone unable to properly monitor them
- penalise a learner for their attendance record if the absence is related to their healthcare needs. 'Authorised absences' including healthcare appointments, time to travel to hospital or appointment, and recovery time from treatment or illness should not be used to penalise a learner in any way. This includes, but is not limited to, participation in activities, trips or awards which are incentivised around attendance records

- request adjustments or additional time for a learner at a late stage. They should be applied for in good time. Consideration should also be given to adjustments or additional time needed in mock examinations or other tests
- prevent learners from drinking, eating or taking toilet or other breaks whenever needed in order to manage their healthcare needs effectively
- require parents, or otherwise make them feel obliged, to attend the education setting, trip or other off-site activity to administer medication or provide healthcare support to the learner, including for toileting issues
- expect or cause a parent to give up work or other commitments because the education setting is failing to support a learner's healthcare needs
- ask a learner to leave the classroom or activity if they need to administer
- non-personal medication or consume food in line with their health needs
- prevent or create unnecessary barriers to a learner's participation in any aspect of their education, including trips, e.g. by requiring a parent to accompany the learner.

*Schools will need to add here how staff are made aware of the 'unacceptable practices and the measures in place to avoid them happening.'*

## TEMPLATES

Form 1	–	Contacting emergency services
Form 2	–	Parental agreement for education setting to administer medicine
Form 3	–	Headteacher/Head of setting agreement to administer medicine
Form 4	–	Record of medicine stored for and administered to an individual learner
Form 5	–	Record of medicines administered to all learners – by date
Form 6	–	Request for learner to carry/administer their own medicine
Form 7	–	Staff training record – administration of medicines
Form 8	–	Medication/Healthcare Incident Report

These forms are downloadable as word documents to enable schools or settings to personalise them.

[learning.gov.wales/resources/browse-all/supporting-learners-with-healthcare-needs/?lang=en](https://learning.gov.wales/resources/browse-all/supporting-learners-with-healthcare-needs/?lang=en)

## Contacting Emergency Services

### Request for an Ambulance

Dial **999**, ask for an ambulance and be ready with the following information where possible.

<b>1</b>	State your telephone number
<b>2</b>	Give your location as follows: <i>(Insert address)</i>
<b>3</b>	State that the postcode is: <i>(insert your postcode)</i>
<b>4</b>	Give the exact location in the education setting <i>(Insert a brief description)</i>
<b>5</b>	Give your name
<b>6</b>	Give the name of the learner and a brief description of symptoms
<b>7</b>	Inform Ambulance Control of the best entrance and state that the crew will be met and taken to <i>(Name location)</i>
<b>8</b>	Don't hang up until the information has been repeated back
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Speak clearly and slowly and be ready to repeat the information if asked to do so</li> <li>– Put a completed copy of this form by all the telephones in the education setting.</li> </ul>	

Parental agreement for education setting to administer medicine

*(Insert school name)* needs your permission to give your child medicine. Please complete and sign this form to allow this.

Name of school	
Name of child	
Date of birth	
Group / class / form	
Healthcare need	

**Medicine**

Name / type of medicine (as described on the container)			
Date dispensed	/	/	Expiry date
			/ /

Agreed review date to be initiated by *(name of member of staff)*

Dosage and method	
Timing	
Special precautions	
Are there any side effects that the school needs to know about?	

Self-administration (delete as appropriate)	Yes / No
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Procedures to take in an emergency	
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### Contact details

Name	
Daytime telephone number	
Relationship to the child	
Address	

I understand that I must deliver the medicine personally to (*agreed member of staff*).

I understand that I must notify the setting of any changes in writing.

Signature	
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Date	
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Headteacher/Head of setting agreement to administer medicines
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Name of setting	
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It is agreed that *(name of learner)* ..... will receive *(quantity or quantity range and name of medicine)* ..... every day at  
 ..... *(time medicine to be administered, e.g. lunchtime/afternoon break).*

*(Name of learner)* ..... will be given / supervised while they take their medication by *(name of member of staff)* .....

This arrangement will continue until *(either end date of course of medicine or until instructed by parents/carers)* .....

Date	
Signed	

*(The headteacher/head of setting/named member of staff)*

**Record of medicine stored for and administered to an individual learner**

Name of setting	
Name of learner	
Date medicine provided by parent	
Group / class / form	
Quantity received	
Name and strength of medicine	
Expiry date	
Quantity returned	
Dose and frequency of medicine	
Staff signature	

Signature of parent/carer			
Date			
Time given			
Dose given			
Name of member of staff			
Staff initials			
Date			

Time given			
Dose given			
Name of member of staff			
Staff initials			

Date			
Time given			
Dose given			
Name of member of staff			
Staff initials			

Date			
Time given			
Dose given			
Name of member of staff			
Staff initials			

Date			
Time given			
Dose given			
Name of member of staff			
Staff initials			



**Request for learner to carry/administer their own medicine**

This form must be completed by the parent/carer.

If staff have any concerns, discuss this request with healthcare professionals.

Name of setting	
Learner's name	
Group/class/form	
Address	
Name of medicine	
Carry and administer	Yes / No
Administer from stored location	Yes / No
Procedures to be taken in an emergency	

**Contact information**

Name	
Daytime telephone number	
Relationship to learner	

I would like my child to administer and / or carry their medicine.

Signed parent/carer	
Date	

I agree to administer and / or carry my medicine. If I refuse to administer my medication as agreed, then this agreement will be reviewed.

Learner's signature	
Date	

**Staff training record – administration of medicines**

Please ensure that the Education Workforce Council registration is updated accordingly.

Name of setting	
Name	
Type of training received	
Date of training completed	/ /
Training provided by	
Profession and title	

I confirm that *(name of staff member)* ..... has received the training detailed above and is competent to carry out any necessary treatment.

I recommend that the training is updates *(please state how often)*.....

Trainer's signature	
Date	

I confirm that I have received the training detailed above.

Staff signature	
Date	
Suggested review date	

**Medication/Healthcare Incident Report**

Learner's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of incident: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of incident: \_\_\_\_\_

**Correct medication and dosage**

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**Medication normally administered by:**

Learner	
Learner with staff supervision	
Nurse/school staff member	

**Type of error:**

Dose administered 30 minutes after scheduled time	
Omission	
Wrong dose	
Additional dose	
Wrong learner	
Dose given without permissions on file	
Dietary	
Dose administered by unauthorised person	

Description of incident	
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**Action taken:**

Parent notified	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>
School nurse notified	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>
Physician notified	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>
Poison control notified			
Learner taken home			
Learner sent to hospital			
Other	<i>Please give details</i>		

Any further information to be noted	
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