

# ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC INFANT SCHOOL

## MEDICAL CARE POLICY

(for supporting all children including those with medical conditions)



*"Loving, Learning and Laughter Together with God"*

Article 3: "The best interests of the child must be top priority in all actions concerning children"

*"Our children will **know more**, **remember more** and **apply more**"*

### Overview

This school places the highest importance on the care, safety, well-being and health of its children and staff especially those with known medical conditions. This policy has been written to give clear guidelines about the appropriate action to be taken where a child is admitted to school with an identified medical condition or when any child or adult is unwell or has an accident. It should be read in conjunction with the Medicines Policy, First Aid Policy, Intimate Care Policy, Educational Visits Policy and the DfE guidance 'Supporting Children with Medical Conditions'

### Objectives:

1. To ensure that good, effective and appropriate care is provided when a child is admitted to school with an identified medical condition or when any child or adult is unwell or has an accident in school or on a school occasion.
2. To ensure that the DfE guidance 'Supporting children with medical conditions' is known, understood and followed and to ensure that appropriate training is provided for all staff and particularly for those with the care of children with medical conditions in line with DfE guidance.

### Strategies:

1. Where a child is admitted to school with a medical condition, including food and ingredient allergies the school will liaise with parents, carers, relevant medical, clinical and other appropriate authorities to ensure that the child's individual needs are met and that they are given full access to the education provided for all children.
2. The headteacher will make teachers and others who care for a child with a medical condition or allergy, aware of the medical condition and food allergy and the needs and levels of care and support that are to be provided. If a child is prescribed an EpiPen by a doctor parents must notify the school and arrangements will be made by the school for staff to use the pen in emergency in line with our first aid policy (See Annex).
3. Appropriate training will be provided for all staff and particularly for those with the care of children with medical conditions in line with DfE guidance.
4. If any child including those with known medical conditions, is unwell in class or has an accident in school, the headteacher and/or first aider (or if the situation occurs out of school – the teacher in charge) will assess the child and decide on the appropriate action which may include giving care and first aid or calling for an emergency ambulance if a child is seriously unwell or injured or their known medical condition is causing concern.

5. In the event of a serious medical emergency requiring hospital treatment, an ambulance should be called immediately and the patient should be cared for by staff until medical help arrives.
6. In the event of a child in Foundation Stage having an accident in school, staff should always seek the help and support of a Paediatric Trained First Aider who will then treat the child appropriately.
7. A child's parents will be contacted as soon as possible, whenever there is a medical emergency or if a child receives first aid treatment or has an accident. Where appropriate, the school will ask the parent/guardian to attend to support the child. Parents must always be notified if a child has a head injury, however minor it may appear at the time.
8. If in an accident or medical emergency, bodily fluids need clearing up the site staff will be called to deal with the matter.
9. The form/book (for recording accidents and other medical emergencies) must be completed by the member of staff who is present at the scene of an accident or medical emergency.
10. If the injured person is a member of staff, they are responsible themselves for completing the form in the appropriate accident book.
11. If an accident or medical emergency occurs off the school premises the member of staff present should complete the Accident Form as soon as possible after returning to School.
12. The teacher in charge of any outing off the school premises has the responsibility for being acquainted with any specific medical needs or conditions, including food allergies of the children in his/her charge and have appropriate training in how to care for the child's subsequent medical needs.
13. Risk assessments must be carried out for all children especially those with known medical conditions including food allergies on each trip. Prior to educational trips and visits, parents will be asked to complete a Consent Form and provision will be made to meet all risks and cover medical needs.
14. In the event that an accident occurs out of school and the family cannot be contacted, at least one member of staff should accompany the person to hospital. In no circumstances should any students be left unattended as a result of a member of staff accompanying the injured person to hospital; in this instance, an ambulance should be called.
15. Staff planning educational visits or journeys, should consider the level of First Aid cover that will be required and the specific support needed by children with known medical conditions and any child who has been prescribed an EpiPen will be identified and the EpiPen will be taken on the visit (see annex).
16. A designated teacher will be given overall responsibility for the care of children with known and identified medical conditions
17. A designated governor will be nominated to oversee this policy and to report annually to the governing body on its effectiveness

## Conclusion:

This policy will ensure that where a child has a medical condition or food allergy, or where a child or adult is unwell or has an accident in school or on a school occasion, they are appropriately supported and cared for. It will ensure that the school does all that it reasonably can to give all children including those with a known medical condition full access to the education provided.

This policy will be reviewed at least every two years or sooner if necessary.

*The governing body have wider responsibilities under the Equalities Act 2010 and will ensure that all our school policies take account of the nine protected characteristics. We strive to do the best for all of the children and staff irrespective of age, disability, educational needs, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, pregnancy, maternity, sex, gender reassignment, religion/belief, marriage/civil partnership or sexual orientation or whether they are looked after children.*

*We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of our policies on equality and the possible implications for pupils with these protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.*

Agreed by Governors on: 24th May 2017	Reviewed due: 17 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 19th November 2020 (Min No: 13/20)
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## Annex: Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a serious life-threatening type of allergic reaction. It usually develops suddenly and gets worse very quickly.

The symptoms include:

- feeling **lightheaded or faint**
- **breathing difficulties** – such as fast, shallow breathing
- wheezing
- a fast heartbeat
- clammy skin
- **confusion** and anxiety
- collapsing or losing consciousness

There may also be other **allergy symptoms**, including an itchy, raised rash (**hives**), feeling or being sick, swelling (**angioedema**), or **stomach pain**.

### What to do if someone has anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a medical emergency. It can be very serious if not treated quickly. If someone has symptoms of anaphylaxis, you should:

1. call 999 for an ambulance immediately – mention that you think the person has anaphylaxis
2. remove any trigger if possible – for example, carefully remove any wasp or bee sting stuck in the skin
3. lie the person down flat – unless they're unconscious, pregnant or having breathing difficulties
4. use an adrenaline auto-injector if the person has one – but make sure you know how to use it correctly first
5. give another injection after 5-15 minutes if the symptoms don't improve and a second auto-injector is available
6. Keep the child lying down or seated and have someone stay with them until they have been assessed by a paramedic.
7. Unconscious patients should be placed in the recovery position

### Guide to Using An EpiPen®

1. There is no need to remove clothing to use an **EpiPen®**, but make sure the orange end will not hit buckles, zips, buttons or thick seams on clothes.
2. To remove **EpiPen®** from the carry case. Flip open the lid on the carry case. Tip the carry case and slide the **EpiPen®** out of the carry case.
3. Lie the child down with their legs slightly elevated to keep their blood flowing or sit them up if breathing is difficult.



Each **EpiPen®** can only be used once. If symptoms don't improve, you can administer a second **EpiPen®** after 5-15 minutes.

**“You Must call 999, ask for an ambulance and state ‘anaphylaxis’.”**