



Medical conditions & support

Education settings should ensure that all students with medical conditions are properly supported to have full access to education.

It is a statutory requirement for maintained schools and academies to ensure that:

- Policies and procedures are in place to meet the health needs of all students, in full partnership with parents, carers and health professionals
- They are compliant with the [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#) and the [Early Years Foundation Stage, DFE 2014](#)
- The setting, healthcare professional, parents, carers and student agree, if possible and based on evidence, about when to implement a healthcare plan
- Clear information about roles & responsibilities is given to **all** staff and volunteers about arrangements for the administration of medicines, support and care
- Staff and volunteers know what to do and can respond appropriately when they become aware that a student with a medical condition needs help
- Staff receive appropriate training, instruction and guidance prior to being asked to administer medicine, support or care to students
- Parents & carers' consent should be sought before any medication and care is given
- Students who are competent to manage their own medication and care should be supported to do so with parental consent and/or if the student is judged to be '**Gillick competent**'
- Prescribed controlled drugs must be kept securely in a non-portable container, unless the student is deemed competent and safe to have it in their possession

Further detailed guidance is available at:

- [Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions, DFE 2014](#)
- [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\)](#)

Parents and carers should:

- Provide the setting with information about the student's medical needs if treatment or special care is required
- Give written consent for the administration of prescribed or non-prescribed medicines by staff
- Give consent before information about a student's health is shared with other staff or other agencies
- Contact a key health worker from the setting to assist, support and advocate understanding around the student's health issues
- Keep the student at home if acutely unwell

Emergency situations:

All settings should have arrangements in place for dealing with emergencies for all activities, wherever they take place, including school trips within and outside the UK.

- All emergency medicines must be readily available and clearly marked with the student's name
- Where possible students should carry their own medical devices e.g. inhalers, adrenaline pens, blood glucose meters
- All staff & students should be made aware of the likelihood of an emergency arising and what action to take
- A member of staff should always accompany a student taken to hospital by ambulance, and should stay until the mother, father or carer arrives

Off-site education or work experience - the setting will:

- Be responsible for students with medical needs who are educated off-site (see [policies and procedures](#) 'Alternative Provision, Sept 2016)
- Conduct risk assessments before off-site education commences
- Be responsible for ensuring that a work place provider has appropriate health and safety and safeguarding policies in place
- Ensure that parents, carers and students give their permission before relevant medical information is shared with the off-site provider.