



Mission Statement

"A Caring Christian Family Where We Grow Together"

SUPPORTING PUPILS WITH HEALTH NEEDS POLICY

Effective Date: 08/10/2019

Review Date: September 2021 Annual

Review Date	Signed Head Teacher	Signed Director RCSAT
08/10/2019	<i>J. L. J. J. J.</i>	<i>P. B. B. B.</i>
30/09/2020	<i>J. M. Badger</i>	<i>P. B. B. B.</i>

Persons Responsible for Policy:	Executive Headteacher RCSAT
Approval Date	18/11/19
Signed:	Director RCSAT
Signed:	Executive Headteacher RCSAT

At Rural Church Schools Academy Trust, we are proud to deliver a rich and connected learning experience that enables all the children to fulfil their potential. Our vision puts children first. As a Christian School, we aim for all children to be successful, independent learners and effective decision makers. We value the individual and are committed to an inclusive education promoting respect for all, working in partnership with governors, parents and the local community.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. At Rural Church Schools Academy Trust, children with medical conditions, in terms of both physical and mental health, will be properly supported in school so that they can play a full and active role in school life, remain healthy and achieve their academic potential and that they can access and enjoy the same opportunities at school as any other child.
- 1.2. We recognise that pupils with short-term, long-term and complex medical conditions may require on-going support, medicines or care while at school to help them to manage their condition and keep them well. Others may require monitoring and interventions in emergency circumstances. The Rural Church Schools Academy Trust recognises that each child's needs are individual.
- 1.3. We also recognise that needs may change over time, and that this may result in extended absence from school. The academy will make every effort to minimise the impact on a child's educational attainment and support his or her emotional and general well-being, including any necessary re-integration programmes. The school will focus on giving pupils and their parents every confidence in the academy's approach.
- 1.4. Rural Church Schools Academy Trust recognises that some children who require support with their medical conditions may also have special educational needs and may have a statement or Education Healthcare Plan (EHCP). We will work together with other schools, health professionals, other support services, and the Local Authority. Sometimes it may be necessary for the academy to work flexibly, and may, for example, involve a combination of attendance at school and alternative provision.
- 1.5. No child with a medical condition will be denied admission on the grounds that arrangements for his or her medical condition have not been made. In line with the academy's safeguarding duties, the academy does not have to accept a child in school at times where it would be detrimental to the health of that child or others to do so.

2. Policy Implementation

- 2.1. The Principal will ensure that sufficient staff are suitably trained.
- 2.2. All relevant staff will be made aware of the child's condition.
- 2.3. Cover arrangements will be put in place to cover for staff absence, to ensure that someone is always available.
- 2.4. All teaching staff, TA's and Associate Teachers will be briefed.
- 2.5. Risk assessments will be put in place for educational visits, and other school activities outside the normal timetable.
- 2.6. Individual healthcare plans alongside the medical conditions and procedures document will be monitored frequently.

3. Roles and responsibilities

Supporting a child with a medical condition during school hours is not the sole responsibility of one person. The Academy will work collaboratively; both with staff within the organisation and with outside agencies, as the circumstances of each child dictate.

3.1. **Governing Body:**

3.1.1.1. The Governing Body will ensure that pupils in the academy with medical conditions are supported. It will ensure that a policy is developed, implemented and monitored. The Governing Body will ensure that all staff receive suitable training and are competent before they take on the responsibility to support children with medical conditions.

3.2. **Principals role:**

3.2.1. Ensure that the Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy is developed and effectively implemented with partners, including all staff are aware of the policy and that they understand their role in implementing the policy.

3.2.2. Ensure that all staff who need to know are aware of a child's condition.

3.2.3. Ensure that sufficient trained numbers of staff are available to implement the policy and deliver against all the individual healthcare plans, including in contingency and emergency situations.

3.2.4. Have overall responsibility for the development of individual healthcare plans.

3.2.5. Ensure that all staff are appropriately insured to support pupils in this way.

3.2.6. Liaise with the school nurse in respect of a child who has a medical condition, including in cases where the situation has not yet been brought to the attention of the school nursing service.

3.3. **Academy Staff:**

3.3.1.1. Any member of the academy staff may be asked to provide support to pupils with medical conditions, including the administration of medicines, although they cannot be required to do so. Although administering medicines is not part of a teachers' professional duties, they should take into account the needs of pupils with medical conditions they teach.

3.3.1.2. Any member of academy staff should know what to do and respond accordingly when they become aware that a pupil with a medical condition needs help.

3.4. **Pupils:**

3.4.1.1. Pupils with medical conditions may be best placed to provide information about how their condition affects them. They should be involved in discussions about their medical support needs and contribute as much as possible to the development of, and comply with their individual healthcare plan. Other children will often be sensitive to the needs of those with medical conditions.

3.5. **Parents and Carers:**

3.5.1.1. Parents and Carers should provide the academy with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs. At Rural Church Schools Academy Trust, parents and carers are seen as key partners and they will be involved in the development and review of their child's individual healthcare plan, and may be involved in its drafting. Parents and carers should carry out the action they have agreed to as part of its implementation, eg: Provide medicines and equipment and ensure they or another nominated adult are contactable at all times.

3.6. **Local Authority:**

3.6.1.1. The Local Authority has a duty to commission a school nurse service to this school. It is expected that the Local Authority will provide support, advice and guidance, including suitable training for academy staff.

4. **Liability and indemnity**

4.1. The Board of Directors at Rural Church Schools Academy Trust ensures that appropriate insurance is in place and that it reflects the level of risk. The insurance covers staff providing support to pupils with medical conditions. From time to time, the academy may need to review the level of cover for health care procedures and any associated related training requirements.

5. **Complaints**

5.1. Parents and carers who are dissatisfied with the support provided should discuss their concerns directly with the academy. If for whatever reason this does not resolve the issue, they make a formal complaint via the academy's complaints procedure.