



THE PRIORY  
LEARNING TRUST

# Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

**Approved by the Board and authorised for use 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022.**

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## History of Policy Changes

Date	Version	Change	Origin of Change e.g. TU request, change in legislation	Changed by
September 2017	1			
July 2018	2	Policy re-written	Review of guidance	Gail Webb
May 2019	3	No changes	Review of guidance	Gail Webb
May 2020	4	Name change in line with current guidelines	Review of guidance	Lisa Smith
May 2021	5	No changes	Review of guidance	Lisa Smith
May 2022	6	No changes	Review of guidance	Lisa Smith

This policy applies to The Priory Learning Trust and its schools.

Date policy adopted	September 2022
Review cycle	Annual
Review date	May 2023

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## 1. Definition

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

(a) Short-term: affecting their participating in school activities while they are on a course of medication. (b) Long-term: potentially limiting their access to education and requiring extra care and support.

The Priory Learning Trust (TPLT) have a responsibility for the health and safety of students in their 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 students with special medical needs, the responsibility of the employer is to make sure that safety measures cover the needs of all students at the school. This may mean making special arrangements for particular students who may be more at risk than their peers. In this case 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 students may need.

The Student and Families Act 2014 places a duty on schools to make arrangements for students with medical conditions. Students with special medical needs have the same right of admission to school as other students and cannot be refused admission or excluded from school on medical grounds alone. However, teachers and other school staff in charge of students have a common law duty to act "in loco parentis" and must ensure the safety of all students in their care. To this end, we reserve the right to refuse admittance to a student with an infectious disease, where there may be a risk posed to others or to the health of the student involved. This duty also extends to teachers leading activities taking place off the school site.

The prime responsibility for a student's health lies with the parent who is responsible for the student's medication and must supply the school with all relevant information needed in order for proficient care to be given to the student. The school takes advice and guidance from a range of sources, including the school First Aider, Health professionals and the student's GP, in addition to the information provided by parents in the first instance. This enables us to ensure we assess and manage risk and minimise disruption to the learning of the student and others who may be affected (e.g. friends, class mates).

## 2. Aims

To:

- support students with medical conditions, so that they have full access to education, including physical education and education visits
- ensure that school staff involved in the care of students with medical needs are fully informed and adequately trained by a professional in order to administer support or prescribed medication
- comply fully with the Equality Act 2010 for students who may have disabilities or special educational needs
- write, in association with healthcare professionals, Individual Healthcare Plans where necessary
- respond sensitively, discreetly and quickly to situations where a student with a medical condition needs support

- Keep, monitor and review appropriate records.

### **3. Entitlement**

TPLT provides full access to the curriculum for every student wherever possible. Students with medical needs have equal entitlement and must receive the necessary care and support so that they can take advantage of this. However, TPLT also recognise that employees have rights in relation to supporting pupils with medical needs, as follows:

Employees should:

- choose whether or not they wish to be involved
- receive appropriate training
- work to clear guidelines
- bring to the attention of Senior Leadership any concern or matter relating to the support of students with medical conditions.

### **4. Insurance**

The Trustees of TPLT will ensure that an appropriate level of insurance is in place.

### **5. Information**

Students with serious medical conditions will have their photo and a brief description of their condition logged on the computer. Students with medical conditions which may require emergency attention, e.g. epilepsy, diabetes, will have an individual Healthcare Plan and all teachers of that student will be advised of this information. All other medical conditions will be noted on SIMS and this information will be provided to class teachers at each assessment point.

### **6. Complaints**

Should parents/carers be unhappy with any aspect of their student's care at TPLT they must discuss their concerns with the school. The initial contact should be with the Head of Year/teacher.

If this does not resolve the problem or allay concern, the problem should be brought to a member of the Senior Leadership Team, who will, where necessary, bring concerns to the attention of the Principal. In the unlikely event of this not resolving the issue, the parents/carers must make a formal complaint using TPLT complaints procedure.

### **7. Policy Review**

This policy is reviewed annually by the Trust and where materially amended is consulted on, where necessary. We will monitor the application and outcomes of this policy to ensure it is working effectively.