



CARE OF PUPILS WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS OR DISABILITIES POLICY

Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to set out protocols for the management, care and support of pupils with chronic medical conditions, and disabilities.

The Governing Body and Senior Leadership Team of Dulwich College fully recognise their responsibilities to support all students with chronic medical conditions and disabilities. The College aims to foster an environment that supports the integration and wellbeing of all students with medical conditions, and disabilities.

The College recognises the need for policies and procedures which promote the health and safety of all its pupils and the need to take account of the requirements of the Equality Act 2010. The College has a duty of care to all pupils and wishes to do all that is reasonable and practicable to safeguard and promote the welfare of these pupils. It has been written in line with Standard 7 (Boarders' health and wellbeing) of the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools (5 September 2022) with the aim to ensure that the physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing of boarders are promoted, and prompt action is taken when health concerns are identified.

Protocols

Chronic conditions are those which in most cases cannot be cured, but may be controlled, and are often life-long and limiting in terms of quality of life.

Conditions may include:

- Diabetes
- Asthma
- Epilepsy
- Eating disorders
- Allergies
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Physical Disability

The complex nature of chronic conditions and disabilities which affect people in different ways require a response that meets the needs of the individual pupil. The following should be considered when enrolling a pupil with significant additional needs:

- Access
- Medication
- Additional care requirements (lifting, personal care equipment)
- Periods of significant illness

In terms of planning, there is a compulsory requirement for the family to provide up to date and current information regarding their child. This will be followed up with a meeting or call with the registered nurse. All pupils will be managed individually and with consideration for how they can achieve as full a school experience as possible. Appropriate staff members are consulted, including Boarding staff, College Medical Officer, Medical Centre staff and other appropriate professionals involved in the pupil's care. They can help identify specific strategies, aids or adjustments that may be required.

The College will produce an Individual Health Care Plan which should include the following:

- Definition and details of the condition
- Special requirements e.g. dietary needs, pre-activity precautions
- Treatment and medication
- What action to take/not to take in an emergency
- Who to contact in an emergency
- Staff training where required
- The role the staff can play
- Consent and agreement

The Individual Health Care Plan would also include a risk assessment if deemed necessary, which is shared with relevant staff (as required). All information regarding pupil health and medical needs can be found on the individual pupil record on the Medical Database.

Where school staff carry out medical or nursing procedures for a pupil, these are only carried out on the authorisation of the prescribing doctor or the responsible qualified nurse in relation to the individual concerned. Staff carrying out these tasks are trained to do so, and this training is kept up to date.

College Staff and the Medical Centre Staff should be kept up to date with any changes that occur to the care plan/ condition of the pupil in a timely manner and should liaise with the appropriate authorities or agencies as required.

Related policies

- Care of Boarders who are unwell or any have accident Policy
- Medications Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Medical Emergency in the absence of a School Nurse

Policy Owner:	Lead Nurse
Last Reviewed:	October 2024
Date of Next Review:	2025 - 26 (or earlier as required)