

CHRONIC CONDITIONS GUIDING STATEMENT CANALWAY ETNS

INTRODUCTION

This policy was written in by the staff, in conjunction with parents and the Board of Management of Canalway Educate Together.

DEFINITION

Chronic illness is defined as a long term condition which can be treated and controlled but not cured. (HSE Chronic Illness Framework 2008) These conditions include Diabetes , Heart Failure, Asthma, Obstructive Pulmonary Illness , Musculoskeletal Disease, Neurological Conditions and Mental Health Problems.

CWETNS understand that certain chronic conditions are serious and can be potentially life threatening particularly if ill managed or misunderstood.

CWETNS endeavours to make the whole school environment inclusive and favourable to students with chronic conditions. This includes the physical environment as well as social, sporting and educational activities.

WHAT WE AIM TO ACHIEVE

1. CWETNS endeavours to ensure that students with chronic conditions can participate fully in all aspects of the curriculum and does its best to provide appropriate adjustments and extra support as needed.
2. If a student is missing a lot of school time, has limited concentration or is frequently tired all teachers at CWETNS understand that this may be due to their having a chronic condition.
3. Staff use opportunities such as SPHE lessons to raise awareness of chronic conditions amongst students and to create a positive social environment for those with chronic conditions.

PARENTS – It is the responsibility of the parent to:

1. Inform the school if your child has a diagnosed chronic illness that may require medical intervention.
2. Supply the school with medical documentation, confirming their child's diagnosis of a chronic illness.
3. Provide the necessary medical equipment and information to respond to any emergency.
4. Complete a Health Care Plan.
5. Keep the school updated & supplied with in-date medication.
6. Identify possible risks / activities and provide medical documentation for exclusion.

COMMUNICATION

CWETNS has a clear communication plan for staff and parents /guardians to ensure the safety of all students with a chronic condition.

1. All parents/guardians are informed and reminded about this school's guidelines :
 - The information is included in the school's prospectus
 - New parents are informed of these guidelines when their child is enrolled
 - Via the school's website
 - In the school's newsletter
 - Parents of children with a chronic condition are informed and reminded about this school's Managing Chronic Health Conditions guidelines.
 - At the start of the school year when communication is sent out about the Healthcare Plan
2. School staff are informed and regularly reminded about the Managing Chronic Health Conditions guidelines:
 - Through updates by the Principal or class teacher at staff meetings.
 - Through key principles of the school guidelines being displayed in several prominent staff areas at school
 - Through school-wide communication about results of the monitoring and evaluation of the guidelines
3. Students are informed and regularly reminded about the Managing Chronic Health Conditions guidelines in SPHE at an age appropriate level.
4. The responsibilities of school staff and parents of students with a chronic condition are set out in a written format and clearly understood by all parties in the Healthcare Plan and Emergency Plan for each condition.
5. Healthcare Plans are used to create a centralised register of students with medical needs. An identified member of staff has responsibility for the register at CWETNS.
6. It is the responsibility of parents to inform if there is a change in the plan.
7. Welcome Back Newsletter will feature a reminder on chronic illness.

EQUALITY

1. CWETNS endeavours to ensure that the needs of students with chronic conditions are adequately considered to ensure their involvement in structured and unstructured social activities during breaks, before and after school.

2. CWETNS endeavours to ensure that the needs of students with chronic conditions are adequately considered to ensure that they have full access to extended school activities and school excursions.
3. Staff at CWETNS are aware of the potential social problems that students with chronic conditions may experience. Staff use this knowledge to prevent and deal with problems in accordance with the schools anti-bullying and behaviour policies

EXERCISE AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

1. CWETNS ensures all teachers and external sports coaches make appropriate adjustments to sports, games and other activities to make physical activity accessible to all our students.
2. CWETNS endeavours to ensure all teachers and external sports coaches understand that students who experience particular challenges arising from their condition should not be forced to take part in an activity when they feel unwell.
3. Teachers and external sports coaches are aware of students in their care who have been advised to avoid or to take special precautions with particular activities.
4. CWETNS ensures all teachers and sports coaches are aware of the potential triggers for a student's condition(s) when exercising and how to minimise these triggers.
5. CWETNS ensures that class teachers have the appropriate medication and/or food with them during physical activity and that students take it/ them when needed.

SCHOOL EXCURSIONS

1. Risk and conditions are considered by CWETNS prior to any out-of-school visit. Factors the school considers include: how all students will be able to access the activities proposed, how routine and emergency medication will be stored and administered and where help can be obtained in an emergency. All trips are to be approved by the Board of Management.
2. CWETNS understands that there may be additional medication, equipment or other factors to consider when planning tours.
3. Staff to assess sites prior to visits, if the poses a health risk to children with a chronic illness.

ONGOING COMMUNICATION AND REVIEW OF HEALTHCARE PLANS

1. Parents of children at CWETNS are regularly reminded to update their child's Healthcare Plan with changes to things such as their symptoms or medication.
2. Staff at CWETNS use opportunities such as parent-teacher meetings to check that information held by the school on a student's condition is accurate and up to date.

STORAGE AND ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE PLANS

1. Parents of students at CWETNS are provide with a copy of the student's current agreed Healthcare Plan.
2. Healthcare Plans are kept in the child's own file
3. All members of staff who work with students have access to the Healthcare Plans of students in their care.
4. CWETNS ensures that substitute /temporary teachers are made aware of and have access to the Healthcare Plans of students in their care.
5. CWETNS ensures that all staff protect student confidentiality.
6. CWETNS seeks permission from parents to allow the healthcare Plan to be sent ahead to emergency care staff should an emergency happen during school hours or at a school activity outside the normal school day. This permission is included on the Healthcare Plan.

USE OF HEALTHCARE PLANS

Healthcare Plans are used by CWETNS to:

- Inform the appropriate staff and substitute/temporary teachers about the individual needs of a student with a chronic condition in their care.
- Identify common or important triggers for students with chronic conditions at school that bring on symptoms and can cause emergencies. CWETNS uses this information to help reduce the impact of common triggers.

SAFE STORAGE and ADMINISTRATION

CWETNS has clear guidance on the administration and storage of medication and necessary equipment at our school. CWETNS understands the importance of medication being taken as prescribed and the need for safe storage of medication at our school.

1. Emergency medication is accessible at all times.
2. CWETNS understands the importance of medication being taken as prescribed.
3. Staff are aware that there is no legal or contractual duty to administer medication or to supervise a student taking medication. However a teacher who is confident and willing can do so under controlled guidelines but only with the permission of the BOM and written approval of the parents/guardians.
4. Parents/Guardians at CWETNS understand that if their child's medication changes or is discontinued, they should notify the school immediately in writing to update their child's Healthcare Plan. CWETNS will confirm the changes are incorporated into the plan.
5. Staff or other parents attending tours/off site activities are made aware of any students with chronic conditions on the visit. They will receive information about the

type of condition, what to do in an emergency and any other additional support necessary.

6. If a student misuses medication, either their own or another student's, their parents are informed as soon as possible. These students are subject to the school's usual disciplinary procedures.

SAFE STORAGE-EMERGENCY MEDICATION

1. Emergency medication is readily available at all times during the school day or at off-site activities.
2. Staff members know where emergency medication is stored.
3. Where healthcare professionals or parents advise the school that the student is not yet able or old enough to self-manage and carry their own emergency medication, this student's teacher knows exactly where and how to access their emergency medication.
4. Staff at CWETNS ensure that medication is only accessible to those for whom it is prescribed.

SAFE STORAGE – GENERAL

1. There is an identified member of staff who ensures the correct storage of medication at CWETNS.
2. At the beginning of each term, the identified member of staff will check the expiry dates for all medication stored at CWETNS.
3. The identified member of staff along with the parents/ guardians of students with chronic conditions ensure that all emergency and non-emergency medication brought into school is clearly labelled with the student's name, the name and dose of the medication and the frequency of dose. This includes all medication that students carry themselves.
4. Medication is stored in accordance with instructions, paying particular note to temperature.
 1. 5 Medication for students at CWETNS that may need to be refrigerated will be stored in an airtight container and clearly labelled with the student's name.
 2. 6 All medication is sent home with parents at the end of year. Medication is not stored at school during the holiday periods.
 3. 7 It is the parent's/ guardians responsibility to ensure new and in date medication comes into school on the first day of each new school year.

SAFE DISPOSAL

1. Parents at CWETNS are asked to ensure that they collect all out-of-date medication.

2. Parents must provide CWETNS with a sharps box if necessary for disposal of needles. All sharps boxes are stored in a safe place and secure arrangements are put in place on a case-by-case basis.
3. If a sharps box is needed on an off-site visit a named member of staff is responsible for its safe storage and returns it to the student's parents /guardians.
4. Collection and disposal of sharps boxes is arranged by the parents.
5. Used Adrenalin auto injectors must be given to the ambulance crew.

EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Staff at CWETNS understand their duty of care to students in the event of an emergency and are required under common law duty of care to act like any reasonably prudent parent and look to implement the relevant Emergency Plan.

Action for staff to take in an emergency for the most common conditions at CWETNS is displayed in prominent locations for all staff.

Ratified on 30.05.2017

To be reviewed in 2019

Chairperson – Catherine Cosgrave

Principal – Dermot Stanley.

Healthcare Plan



(Please fill in **all sections of the form** and return to the school office)

Date form completed Date for review.....

Child Information

Child's Name Class

Date of Birth Age

Siblings in school

Contact information

Child's Address

Family contacts:

1. Name.....
Mobile Email.....
Relationship to Child

2. Name.....
Mobile Email.....
Relationship to Child

3. Additional Emergency contact
Name.....
Mobile Email.....
Relationship to Child

GP Contact

Name..... Phone

Consultant

Name Phone.....

Details of the students conditions

Signs and symptoms of this student's condition

.....
.....

Triggers or things that make this student's condition worse.

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.....

Routine Healthcare requirements

During School Hours

.....
.....

Outside School hours

.....
.....

Regular medication taken during school hours:

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.....

Emergency Medications (Please include all details including dosage)

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.....

Participation / Inclusion in Activities:

.....
.....

Any other information relating to the students healthcare in school?

.....
.....

Parental and student agreement (please tick correct reply)

I agree I do not agree.....that the medical information contained in this plan may be shared with individuals involved with my child's care and education (this includes emergency services). I understand that I must notify the school of any changes in writing.

Signed:.....(Parent/Guardian)

Print name

Date :.....

Permission for emergency medication (please tick correct reply)

In the event of an emergency, I agree.....I do not agree..... with my child receiving medication administered by a staff member or providing treatment as set out in the attached Emergency Plan.

Signed:.....(Parent/Guardian)

Print name

Date :.....

Sample Anaphylactic Template

Name : Ben O'Connor

Class : Junior Infants

Date of Birth : 25/02/2012

Siblings in the school : None



Sample Anaphylactic Template

Name : Julie O'Donell

Class : Junior Infants

Date of Birth : 25/02/2012

Siblings in the school : None

