

First Aid Policy

Title	First Aid Policy
Author	CEO
Approved by	Trustees
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Links to other procedures	<p>This policy has been adopted by the Board of Directors of the South York Multi Academy Trust and applies to all schools that make up the Trust. This policy applies to each school operating within the South York Multi- Academy Trust unless specific conditions and applications are identified within this policy.</p> <p>This policy will be monitored regularly by the Multi Academy Trust Board in line with the agreed timetable for policy review or sooner as events or legislation changes require.</p>

1 Statement of Intent

- 1.1 The South York MAT is committed to providing emergency first aid provision in order to deal with accidents and incidents affecting staff, pupils and visitors. The arrangements within this policy are based on the results of a suitable and sufficient risk assessment carried out by the school in regard to staff, pupils and visitors.
- 1.2 The South York MAT will take every reasonable precaution to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all staff, pupils and visitors.
- 1.3 This policy aims to:
- Ensure that the school has adequate, safe and effective first aid provision for every pupil, member of staff and visitor to be well looked after in the event of any illness, accident or injury, no matter how major or minor.
 - Ensure that staff and pupils are aware of the procedures in the event of any illness, accident or injury.
 - Ensure that medicines are only administered at the school when express permission has been granted for this.
 - Ensure that all medicines are appropriately stored.
- 1.4 Each South York MAT school's lead first aider has overall responsibility for ensuring that the school has adequate and appropriate first aid equipment, facilities and staff and for ensuring that the correct first aid procedures are followed.

2 Legal Framework

- 2.1 This policy has due regard to legislation and statutory guidance, including, but not limited to the following:
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
 - The Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981
 - The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
 - The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 1995
 - DfE (Updated 2017) 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions'
 - DfE (Updated 2022) 'Guidance on first aid for schools'
 - DfE (Updated 2023) 'Automated external defibrillators (AEDs)'
 - DfE (Updated 2021) 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage'

3 Roles and Responsibilities

- 3.1 The governing board is responsible for:
- The overarching development and implementation of this policy and all corresponding procedures.
 - Ensuring that the relevant risk assessments, and assessments of the first aid needs of the school specifically, have been conducted.
 - Ensuring that there is a sufficient number of appointed first aiders within the school based upon these assessments.

- Ensuring that there are procedures and arrangements in place for first aid during off-site or out-of-hours activities, e.g., educational visits or parents' evenings.
- Ensuring that insurance arrangements provide full cover for any potential claims arising from actions of staff acting within the scope of their employment.
- Ensuring that appropriate and sufficient first aid training is provided for staff, and ensuring that processes are in place to validate that staff who have undertaken training have sufficient understanding, confidence and expertise in carrying out first aid duties.
- Ensuring that adequate equipment and facilities are provided for the school site.
- Ensuring that first aid provision for staff does not fall below the required standard and that provision for pupils and others complies with the relevant legislation and guidance.

3.2 The headteacher is responsible for:

- The development and implementation of the school's first aid policy and its related procedures.
- Ensuring the school has sufficient first aiders who are offered appropriate training and refresher training as required.
- Ensuring that all staff and parents are made aware of the school's policy and arrangements regarding first aid.
- Undertaking or ensuring that managers undertake, appropriate risk assessments and appropriate measures are put in place.
- Ensuring that all staff are aware of the locations of first aid equipment and how it can be accessed, particularly in the case of an emergency.
- Ensuring that all pupils and staff are aware of the identities of the school first aiders and how to contact them if necessary.
- Ensuring that adequate space is available for catering to the medical needs of pupils.
- Undertaking or ensuring the school business manager reports specified incidents to the HSE when necessary.

3.3 Staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that they have sufficient awareness of this policy and the outlined procedures, including making sure that they know who to contact in the event of any illness, accident or injury.
- Endeavouring at all times to secure the welfare of the pupils at school.
- Making pupils aware of the procedures to follow in the event of illness, accident or injury.
- Completing accident reports for all incidents they attend to where a first aider/appointed person is not called.
- Informing the headteacher or their line manager of any specific health conditions or first aid needs.

3.4 First aid staff are responsible for:

- Completing and renewing training as dictated by the governing board.
- Ensuring that they are comfortable and confident in administering first aid.
- Ensuring that they are fully aware of the content of this policy and any procedures for administering first aid, including emergency procedures.

- Acting as first responders to any incidents; they will assess the situation where there is an injured or ill person, and provide immediate and appropriate treatment
- Filling in an accident report on the same day, or as soon as is reasonably practicable, after an incident.
- Keeping their contact details up to date.

3.5 The appointed person is responsible for:

- Overseeing the school's first-aid arrangements.
- Taking charge when someone is injured or becomes ill.
- Looking after the first-aid equipment, e.g., checking and restocking the first aid kits.
- Ensuring that an ambulance or other professional medical help is summoned when appropriate.
- Partaking in emergency first aid training, and refresher training where appropriate, to ensure they have knowledge of:
 - What to do in an emergency.
 - Cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
 - First aid for the unconscious casualty.
 - First aid for the wounded or bleeding.
 - Maintaining injury and illness records as required.

4 First Aid Provision

4.1 The school will routinely re-evaluate its first aid arrangements, at least annually, to ensure that these arrangements continue to be appropriate for hazards and risks on the school premises, the size of the school, the needs of any vulnerable individuals on site, and the nature and distribution of pupils and staff throughout the school.

4.2 The school will have suitably stocked first aid boxes in line with the assessment of needs. Where there is no special risk identified, a minimum provision of first aid items will be as follows:

- A leaflet giving general advice on first aid.
- 20 individually wrapped sterile adhesive dressings, of assorted sizes.
- 2 sterile eye pads.
- 2 individually wrapped triangular bandages, preferably sterile.
- 6 safety pins.
- 6 medium-sized (approximately 12cm x 12cm) individually wrapped sterile unmedicated wound dressings.
- 2 large-sized (approximately 18cm x 18cm) individually wrapped sterile unmedicated wound dressings.
- 3 pairs of disposable gloves.
- **NO** medication should be kept in First Aid Kits.

4.3 All first aid containers will be identified by a white cross on a green background.

4.4 The appointed person will routinely examine the contents of first aid boxes, including any mobile first aid boxes for offsite use – these will be frequently checked and restocked as soon as possible after use. Items will be safely discarded after the expiry date has passed.

5 First Aiders

5.1 The main duties of first aiders will be to administer immediate first aid to pupils, staff or visitors, and to ensure that an ambulance or other professional medical help is called when necessary.

5.2 The school will ensure that all first aiders hold a valid certificate of competence, issued by an HSE-approved organisation, and that refresher training and retesting of competence is arranged for first aiders within the school before certificates expire.

5.3 The school will be mindful that many standard first aid at work training courses do not include resuscitation procedures for children, and will consequently ensure that appropriate training is secured for first-aid personnel where this has not already been obtained.

5.4 First aiders will ensure that their first aid certificates are kept up-to-date through liaison with the SBM.

5.5 Each classroom's first aiders will be responsible for ensuring all first aid kits are properly stocked and maintained. The first aid appointed person will be responsible for maintaining supplies. Each school are to embed a procedure to enable staff to record items used and in need of replacing.

5.6 First aid notices will be clearly displayed throughout the school with information on the names and locations of first aiders to ensure that pupils and staff know who they must contact in the event of illness or injury.

5.7 The school will ensure that there is always a sufficient number of first-aid personnel available on site at all times to provide adequate cover to all areas of the school.

5.8 In line with government guidance, and taking into account staff: child ratios, the school will ensure that there is at least one member of staff with a current and full Paediatric First Aid (PFA) certificate on the premises and available at all times when pupils are present, and accompanying pupils on any and all outings taken. **[EYFS only]**

5.9 All staff members will be made aware that agreeing to become a first aider for the school is strictly on a voluntary basis and that they should never feel pressured to take on this role. When selecting first aiders, the school will follow the criteria laid out in government guidance, considering the individual's:

- Reliability and communication skills.
- Aptitude and ability to absorb new knowledge and learn new skills.
- Ability to cope with stressful and physically demanding emergency procedures.
- Normal duties – a first aider must be able to leave to go immediately to an emergency.

6 Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)

- 6.1 Where the use of the AED is required, individuals will follow the step-by-step instructions displayed on the device, or follow the audio prompts. A general awareness briefing session, to promote the use of AEDs, will be provided to staff on an annual basis and ideally during the first training days of the academic year.
- 6.2 The appointed person will ensure the relevant serviceability checks are carried out on the AED as per the manufacturer's guidelines.
- 6.3 The appointed person will ensure that all ancillary equipment required to operate the AED effectively is present, in good working order and within its expiry date.

7 Emergency Procedures

- 7.1 If an incident, illness or injury occurs, the member of staff in charge will assess the situation and decide on the appropriate course of action, which may involve calling for an ambulance immediately or calling for a first aider.
- 7.2 If called, a first aider will assess the situation and take charge of first aider administration.
- 7.3 If the first aider does not consider that they can adequately deal with the presenting condition by the administration of first aid, then they will arrange for the injured person to access appropriate medical treatment without delay.
- 7.4 Where an initial assessment by the first aider indicates a moderate to serious injury has been sustained, or the individual has become seriously unwell, a responding staff member will call 999 immediately.
- 7.5 Where necessary, a trained staff member will administer emergency help and first aid to all injured persons. The purpose of this is to keep the victim alive and, if possible, comfortable, before professional medical help arrives. In some situations, immediate action can prevent the accident from becoming increasingly serious, or from involving more victims.
- 7.6 Where the seriously injured or unwell individual is a pupil, the following process will be followed:
 - A responding staff member calls 999 immediately and follows the instructions of the operator – this may include the administering of emergency first aid.
 - Where an ambulance is required, a staff member accompanies the pupil in the ambulance and calls the pupil's parent as soon as possible to inform them of the course of action taken. The staff member remains with the pupil at the hospital until a parent arrives.
 - Where an ambulance is not required, but medical attention is needed, the pupil is taken to a hospital or doctor in a staff car, accompanied by at least two staff members – one of whom to drive the car, and one of whom, a first aider, to sit with the pupil in the back seat and attend to their medical needs. The pupil's parent is called as soon as possible to inform them that this course of action has been taken, and at least one of the staff members remains with the pupil at the hospital or doctor's office until a parent arrives.
 - The school will ensure that no further injury can result from any incidents that occur, either by making the scene of the incident safe, or (if they are fit to be moved) by removing injured persons from the scene.

- Responding staff members will see to any pupils who may have witnessed the incident or its aftermath and who may be worried or traumatised, despite not being directly involved. These pupils will be escorted from the scene of the incident and comforted. Younger or more vulnerable pupils may need parental support to be called immediately.

7.7 Once the above action has been taken, details of the incident will be reported promptly to:

- The headteacher.
- The parents of the victim(s).
- If a serious injury requiring hospital treatment has been sustained by a pupil, member of staff or visitor the SYMAT Central Team should also be informed.

8 Reporting Accidents and Record Keeping

8.1 In the event of an incident or injury to a pupil, at least one of the pupil's parents will be informed as soon as practicable.

8.2 Parents will be informed in writing of any injury to the head, whether minor or major, and be given guidance on the action to take if symptoms develop.

8.3 A list of emergency contacts will be kept on the school database.

8.4 The appointed person will ensure that records are kept of any injuries, accidents or illnesses, the information should include:

- date, time and place of incident.
- name of injured or ill person.
- details of the injury or illness.
- details of what first aid was given.
- what happened immediately after the incident (for example, went home, went back to class, went to hospital).
- name and signature of first aider or person dealing with the incident.

8.5 The headteacher will ensure that any injury or accident that must be reported to the HSE or LA under RIDDOR obligations is reported in a timely and detailed manner.

8.6 All records will be filed and stored in line with the Record Management Policy.

9 Offsite visits and events

9.1 Before undertaking any offsite visits or events, the teacher organising the trip or event will assess the level of first aid provision required by undertaking a suitable and sufficient risk assessment of the visit or event and the persons involved.

9.2 For more information about the school's educational visit requirements, please see the Educational Visits and School Trips Policy.

10 Storage of medication

10.1 Medicines will be stored securely and appropriately in accordance with individual product instructions, save where individual pupils have been given responsibility for keeping such equipment with them.

- 10.2 All medicines will be stored in the original container in which they were dispensed, together with the prescriber's instructions for administration, and properly labelled, showing the name of the patient, the date of prescription and the date of expiry of the medicine.
- 10.3 At the end of academic year, all medication will be returned to parents for safe disposal. Any uncollected medication will be disposed of using appropriate channels.
- 10.4 An emergency supply of medication will be available for pupils with medical conditions that require regular medication or potentially lifesaving equipment, e.g., an EpiPen.
- 10.5 Parents will advise the school when a child has a chronic medical condition or severe allergy so that an IHP can be implemented and staff can be trained to deal with any emergency in an appropriate way. Examples of this include epilepsy, diabetes and anaphylaxis. A disclaimer will be signed by the parents in this regard.

11 Illnesses and allergies

- 11.1 When a pupil becomes ill during the school day (e.g., they have been sick or repeatedly complain of feeling unwell), the parents will be contacted and asked to pick their child up as soon as possible.
- 11.2 A quiet area will be set aside for withdrawal and for pupils to rest while they wait for their parent to pick them up. Pupils will be monitored during this time.
- 11.3 Where a pupil has an allergy, this will be addressed via their individual health plan.

12 Consent

- 12.1 Parents will be asked to complete and sign a medical consent form when their child is admitted to the school, which includes emergency numbers, details of allergies and chronic conditions, and consent for the administration of emergency first aid – these forms will be updated periodically.
- 12.2 Staff do not act 'in loco parentis' in making medical decisions as this has no basis in law. Staff will always aim to act and respond to accidents and illnesses based on what is reasonable under the circumstances and will always act in good faith while having the best interests of the pupil in mind.