

Dr Uddin & Dr Anwar, Halliwell Surgery 3

School Healthcare Plans, Asthma Plans and Allergy Plans



Schools have a legal duty to support pupils with medical conditions and are responsible for developing and maintaining any Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) required for their pupils. Recent government guidance has strengthened schools' responsibilities in relation to allergies and other medical conditions, including requirements for staff training, emergency procedures and individual support arrangements where necessary.

Information schools may need

When developing support arrangements for a child, schools will often work with:

- Parents and carers
- Hospital or specialist clinic letters
- Existing asthma action plans or allergy management plans
- Medication information
- School nursing services and other healthcare professionals where appropriate

Requests for GP-completed forms

Schools occasionally ask parents to contact their GP to complete school healthcare plans, asthma plans, allergy plans or other school forms.

Please be aware that responsibility for developing and maintaining school healthcare plans rests with the school.

There is no routine requirement within core NHS general practice services for GPs to complete school-generated healthcare plans or administrative paperwork on behalf of schools.

In many cases, the information required by the school is already available from parents, existing medical records, specialist correspondence or previously issued care plans. Schools should consider these sources when developing support arrangements for pupils.

When GP input may be required

There may be circumstances where specific clinical information is required to support a child's care. Where appropriate, healthcare professionals may contribute relevant medical information to assist with safe management of a medical condition.

Any request for information from the practice will be considered on its individual merits and subject to NHS contractual requirements, clinical appropriateness and available information.

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Before contacting the practice

If your school asks you to obtain a GP letter, asthma plan, allergy plan or completion of a healthcare form, we recommend that you first discuss with the school whether they can use:

- Existing hospital or specialist letters
- Previously issued care plans from annual asthma reviews with the practice or community children's nurses
- Copies of clinic correspondence
- Information provided directly by parents or carers

Our commitment

We understand that parents can sometimes find themselves caught between requests from schools and healthcare services. Our practice is committed to providing appropriate clinical care and advice for children with medical conditions. However, we may not always be able to provide reports, letters or form completion where these fall outside NHS-funded general practice services.

Thank you for your understanding.