



4. Health Procedures

4.3 Life-Saving Medication and Invasive Treatments

Life-saving medication and invasive treatments may include adrenaline injections (Epi-pens) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs etc) or invasive treatment such as rectal administration of Diazepam (for epilepsy).

- The key person responsible for the intimate care of children who require life-saving medication or invasive treatment will undertake their duties in a professional manner having due regard to the procedures listed.
- The child's welfare is paramount, and their experience of intimate and personal care should be positive. Every child is treated as an individual and care is given gently and sensitively; no child should be attended to in a way that causes distress or pain.
- The key person works in close partnership with parents/carers and other professionals to share information and provide continuity of care.
- Children with complex and/or long-term health conditions have a care plan in place which takes into account the principles and best practice guidance given here.
- Key persons have appropriate training for administration of treatment and are aware of infection control best practice, for example, using personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Key persons speak directly to the child, explaining what they are doing as appropriate to the child's age and level of comprehension.
- Children's right to privacy and modesty is respected. Another practitioner will be present during the process, or at least in ear or eye shot.

Record keeping

For a child who requires invasive treatment the following must be in place from the outset:

- a letter from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication, if any, is to be administered
- written consent from parents allowing members of staff to administer medication
- proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child's GP, a district nurse, children's nurse specialist or a community paediatric nurse
- a health care plan

Individual cases need to be raised with our insurance provider for appraisal. Confirmation will then be issued in writing confirming that the insurance has been extended. A record is made in the medication record book of the intimate/invasive treatment each time it is given.

Physiotherapy

- Children who require physiotherapy whilst attending the setting should have this carried out by a trained physiotherapist.
- If it is agreed in the care plan that the key person should undertake part of the physiotherapy regime, then the required technique must be demonstrated by the physiotherapist personally; written guidance must also be given and reviewed regularly. The physiotherapist should observe the practitioner applying the technique in the first instance.

Safeguarding/child protection

- Practitioners recognise that children with SEND are particularly vulnerable to all types of abuse and, therefore, the safeguarding procedures are followed rigorously.
- If a practitioner has any concerns about physical changes noted during a procedure, for example unexplained marks or bruising, the concerns are discussed with the designated person for safeguarding and the relevant procedure is followed.

Treatments such as inhalers or Epi-pens are accessible at all times and stored in the first aid cupboard in the office. Any emergency medication will be taken with the child during off-site visits.