

Earlscliffe (Sussex Summer Schools Ltd)

EPILEPSY

For all staff and parents

This policy has been written in line with information provided by Epilepsy Action and the DFE guidance on the Managing Medicines in Schools and Early years (March 2005).

We recognise that Epilepsy is a common condition-affecting children and welcome all children with epilepsy to the school. We will support children with epilepsy in all aspects of school life and encourage them to achieve their full potential.

This policy ensures that all relevant staff receives training about epilepsy and administering emergency medicines. All new staff and supply staff will also receive appropriate training.

What to do when a child with epilepsy joins us

When a student with epilepsy joins our school, or is a current pupil diagnosed with the condition, the school nurse and teacher arranges a meeting with the pupil and the parents to establish how the pupil's epilepsy may affect their school life. This should include the implications for learning, playing and social development, and out of school activities/trips. Special arrangements such as extra time during exams will also be discussed.

Pupils in the school are made aware of epilepsy through assemblies and PHSE lessons.

Record Keeping

Accurate records of the child's epilepsy, health and learning needs will be kept. Parents must provide information regarding changes to treatment and the records changed, staff informed accordingly.

Medication

An individual healthcare plan will be drawn up and contain information regarding medication, symptoms, triggers, emergency procedures and contact details. It will also contain instruction regarding the administration of rectal diazepam or buccal midazolam and the staff trained to administer.

Medications will be stored as per school medicine policy and in line with DFE guidance.

First Aid

Staff are regularly trained/updated in first aid procedures. For tonic-clonic seizure:

Stay calm

If the student is convulsing then put something soft under head, if possible

protect the child from injury

NEVER try and put anything in their mouth or between teeth

Try and time how long the seizures lasts—if it lasts longer than usual for that pupil or

continues for more than five minutes then call medical assistance

some students may be prescribed Medication if fit lasts longer than 5 mins. They will have care plan to identify this.

When a child finishes their seizure stay with them and reassure them
Do not give them food or drink until they have fully recovered from seizure
If incontinent during seizure cover with blanket after seizure is finished to avoid potential embarrassment.

Learning and Behaviour

We recognise that students with epilepsy can have special educational needs because of their condition (7.64-7.67 special educational needs code of practice)

Following the initial meeting, staff will be asked to ensure the pupil is not falling behind in lessons. If this starts to happen the teacher will initially discuss the situation with the parents. If necessary an individual educational plan will be drawn up the school. An assessment by an educational or neuropsychologist may be necessary to decide if further action required.