

DIABETES POLICY

2024/2025

**Rationale and Ethos**

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It is important to understand the overriding philosophy that enables students to derive so much benefit from the experience that is 'Brymore'. Brymore is a state boarding academy for boys aged 11 to 16. Academic performance is not used as a selection criterion; neither is experience or expertise in any particular practical field.

Boys with appreciable motivation and interest in the areas of agriculture, horticulture, technology or sport would benefit significantly from the specialised curriculum offered at the school. As such Brymore does attract students who are genuinely interested in the delivered curriculum (in its widest sense).

All boys, we believe, irrespective of their interests, benefit from the structure and discipline that the practical learning and boarding environment brings. All boys attending Brymore are described as either full time boarders (staying in throughout the weekend as well as during the week), weekly ‘boarders’ or ‘out-boarders’, who are day pupils expected to periodically board. Weekly boarders stay at the school full time Monday- Friday (they may go home on a Friday from 4.00 pm and return on Sunday by 9.00 pm or Monday by 8.30 am), while out-boarders board when on farm duty. This is normally for one week each term. Both boarders and out-boarders have access to the boarding accommodation of the academy.

# POLICY STATEMENT

* + Brymore Academy is an inclusive community that aims to support pupils with diabetes, ensuring they participate fully in all aspects of school and boarding.
	+ It recognises that diabetes is a long term medical condition where the amount of glucose in the blood is too high because the body is unable to use it properly

Brymore academy is aware that diabetic pupils need immediate access to their medicine, monitoring devices and hypo packs at all times and therefore appropriate steps are taken to ensure easy access to these items

* + All staff are aware of what to do if a diabetic pupil becomes unwell

# DIABETES MEDICATION

## Storage

Brymore academy has a comprehensive *Administration of Medicines Policy* which covers all

aspects of medicine storage, administration and conjunction with this policy

monitoring and should be read in

It may be necessary for insulin to be stored in a medical fridge. Therefore, the school will ensure that diabetic students and staff have easy access to a medical fridge specifically for this purpose

Pupils are advised to always carry their insulin with them in their school bags also to have snacks and high sugar drinks on their persons. Spare insulin cartridges, pens and high sugary drinks / snacks can be stored with Brymore’s medical centre. All diabetic pupils who have an implant reader in the arm must be always allowed access to their phones to allow them to check their blood sugar levels when necessary.

## Administration

If the pupil has been assessed as competent by his diabetes nurse and completed a self-medication form the pupil can administer their own medication.

In most cases Diabetic Students will administer their own medication, any student who requires support with this will attend the Medical Centre

Medication only to be given to person named on prescription.

## Off Site

Diabetes should not prevent a pupil from going on school trips or residential. Careful planning is essential and the Trip Leader should liaise with the students and parents and Health Centre prior to the trip.

Staff must ensure that they have completed a Risk Assessment before any student is taken off site. Each Diabetic student should only leave the school site once the Trip leader has accessed and retained a copy of their individual care plan and has checked that all control measures are in place (e.g. medications, blood glucose monitoring equipment etc)

## Supplies

Pupils are advised to ensure they have adequate supplies of their medication. It is the pupil’s responsibility to ensure their insulin is in date. Spares can be kept in the Health Centre

## Sharps

Diabetic medication and monitoring necessitates the need for the use of Sharps. All Sharps should be disposed of following the schools sharps policy.

# RECORD KEEPING AND CARE PLANNING

When a pupil starts at Brymore academy a diagnosis of diabetes is usually identified on the medical and well-being questionnaire Form which is completed by a parent/guardian prior to arrival. It is important that Parents keep ththe school and the Medical Centre informed of any changes to the pupils’ care.

The Health Centre staff/ SENCO will contact the student’s parents and Specialist (Team) as soon as they are alerted to the condition (i.e.: pre admission) so that liaison and meetings can take place as soon as possible.

## 3.1 Care Plan

A Care Plan is devised and agreed, usually by the diabetic liaison nurse, a copy is kept on the student’s records.

The Individual Care Plan should describe the responsibility of all parties, address the pupil’s specific needs and provide clear instructions for ongoing and emergency care.

It should be regularly reviewed and updated

# EXERCISE AND ACTIVITY

Pupils are encouraged to manage their diabetes to enable them to be involved in all school activities. Pupils must have access to medication and hypo packs during times of activity.

It is important to recognise it is potentially just as dangerous to exercise with glucose levels TOO HIGH as low, and should be checked by the student as they have been instructed by their diabetic nurse and pupils should check their blood glucose level before exercising

Staff should all know of any diabetic pupils they teach and should ensure that they have a working knowledge of their care plans.

Any member of staff can ask for diabetes training through the pupils diabetes Nurse which can be booked via the Medical Centre.

# SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Brymore Academy does all it can to ensure the school is favourable to pupils with diabetes.

# ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Brymore Academy works in partnership with all relevant and interested parties including, all Staff, Parents, Pupils and the Health Centre Staff to ensure the policy is planned, implemented and successfully maintained

## School Staff

All school staff has a responsibility to:

* + - Understand Brymore Academy Diabetes Policy
		- Know which pupils they come into contact with have Diabetes
		- Know what to do should a diabetic student become unwell
		- Allow pupils with diabetes immediate access to their required medication/treatment
		- Inform Health Centre immediately if a pupil is unwell
		- Ensure diabetic pupils have their medication/treatment with them
		- Allow pupils who have been unwell time to catch up on missed work
		- Advise a pupil to seek advice from Health Centre if symptoms cause tiredness or interfere with their work
		- Liaise with Health Centre if a pupil is falling behind on work due to becoming unwell.

## Medical Professionals

The Medical Professionals have a responsibility to:

* + - Monitor, treat and educate.
		- Develop/update/review individual diabetes care plans and share with parents, pupil and school staff . If boarders and school are required to order their medication from the GP it will be done when needed and stocks are kept at a appropriate level
		- To devise/update as necessary the school Diabetes Policy. Offer training to staff as required.
		- Provide medical assistance
		- Ensure pupils with diabetes know when they need to seek medical help with managing their condition

## Parents

Parents have a responsibility to:

* + - Inform the school if a diabetes diagnosis has been made and what medication is taken as soon as possible and with adequate information
		- Inform the Health Centre of any changes to treatment plan or any problems with diabetes when pupil not at school
		- Update the school after any Consultant/Hospital visits
		- Ensure pupil has medication if it is required to be kept in the Health Centre. If a boarder the Health Centre will liaise with the GP and parents regarding medication