



## **Guidelines for Children and Young People with Diabetes returning to school**

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All paediatric teams in Wales are expected to follow the [Guidance published by the British Society for Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes \(BSPED\)](#) on 22 May 2020, which stipulates that Children and Young People with Diabetes can return to school with their school year group, subject to certain provisos (see Appendix).

This guideline aims to support the safe return of children with Type 1 diabetes to school, recognising this is dependent on local education decision-making bodies, and parental choice.

Schools should carry out a risk assessment in readiness for when children return to school, and determine whether the agreed Individual healthcare plan (IHP) for children with Type 1 diabetes can be implemented subject to the required standards defined by Welsh Government.

Schools need to make every reasonable adjustment to ensure that a child's IHP can be fulfilled so that the child can safely return to school at the same time as their peers.

The risk assessment needs to be discussed with the family, and parents must be satisfied that the IHP can be implemented.

The ongoing care of the child needs to be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure the IHP is being fulfilled as agreed.

### **Considerations for risk assessments**

The following aspects of care need to be included in the risk assessment

- Blood glucose testing and/or glucose sensor checking
- Insulin injections and bolus delivery on pumps
- Detection and management of hypoglycaemic episodes
- Supervision of snacks and lunch at school
- Management of any exercise if permitted
- Arrangements for any staff sicknesses to cover the normal care provided to fulfil the Health Care Plan
- Safety measures, including social distancing plans for the classroom, playground and for lunchtimes and playtimes, hand-washing/hygiene facilities, cleaning equipment, staff training and confidence in the care of pupils with type 1 diabetes, availability of PPE for close contact requirements (i.e. supporting diabetes management).



## Appendix - summary of BSPED statement

The BSPED position statement issued on 22nd May 2020 stipulates that Children and Young People with Diabetes can return to school with their school year group, unless

1. They are in the vulnerable/extremely vulnerable groups namely
  - They have had a solid organ transplant – kidney, liver, pancreas, heart, or lung
  - Are having treatments for cancer
  - Have long-term chronic lung disease including cystic fibrosis and severe asthma
  - Have rare diseases that increase their risk of infection
2. They are symptomatic of COVID-19 or are/recently been in contact with symptomatic individuals
3. Children with diabetes who have vulnerable/extremely vulnerable shielded family members

Source: [www.bsped.org.uk/media/1760/bsped-position-statement-on-schools-returning-after-covid-19.pdf](http://www.bsped.org.uk/media/1760/bsped-position-statement-on-schools-returning-after-covid-19.pdf)