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Date: January 12, 2023

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Ref: <http://www.me-net.combidom.com/meweb/web1.4.htm#westminster>

[Written Answers]

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Children

Alexander Stafford

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether his Department has commissioned research into the (a) causation and (b) treatment of children with chronic fatigue syndrome.

Will Quince

The Department funds research through the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR). The NIHR is funding four research projects with a specific focus on myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) in children, with a combined funding value of approximately 1.5 million pounds. Between them, these projects are focussed on characterising ME/CFS in children and developing and identifying potential treatments, rather than elucidating an underlying cause. More broadly, the NIHR has provided approximately 4.4 million pounds for research on ME/CFS since 2011. The NIHR welcomes applications for research into ME/CFS causation and treatment in children.

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Date: January 18, 2023

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<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-01-09/119226>

Ref: <http://www.me-net.combidom.com/meweb/web1.4.htm#westminster>

[Written Answers]

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Children

Alexander Stafford

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps his Department is taking to improve (a) experiences and (b) outcomes for children living with myalgic encephalomyelitis or chronic fatigue syndrome.

Helen Whately

We are developing a cross-Government Delivery Plan on Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS). As part of the plan, we are working with other Government departments and stakeholders to determine ways to improve experiences and outcomes for all people who have ME/CFS, including children.

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Source: UK House of Commons

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<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-01-09/119227>

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[Written Answers]

Pupils: Chronic Fatigue Syndrome

Alexander Stafford

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what support the Government provides to children in full-time education who have myalgic encephalomyelitis or chronic fatigue syndrome.

Claire Coutinho

The department is committed supporting pupils with medical conditions so that they have full access to education. In 2014, the department introduced a new duty on schools to support pupils with all medical conditions, including myalgic encephalomyelitis or chronic fatigue syndrome. Statutory guidance for schools on how to support pupils with medical conditions has been published and is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions->

[-3\(opens](#)

in a new tab).

The guidance does not specify which medical conditions should be supported in schools. It focuses on how to meet the needs of each individual child and how their medical condition impacts on school life.

The statutory guidance states that governing boards should ensure any member of school staff providing support to a pupil with medical needs has received suitable training. This is to ensure that staff are competent and have confidence in their ability to support pupils with medical conditions, and to fulfil the requirements as set out in individual healthcare plans (IHPs).

Schools also have duties under the Equality Act 2010 to make reasonable adjustments and not to discriminate against disabled children, including those with certain long-term health conditions, in relation to their access to education and associated services. Schools must make reasonable adjustments to their practices, procedures, and policies to ensure that they are not putting those with certain long-term health problems at a substantial disadvantage.

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