

Initiation of blended diet feeding via gastrostomy tube in educational settings

Child is commenced on blended diet.

The Home Enteral Feeding Team (HEFT) create a feeding plan and Action/Care plan for the child

Once blended diet feeding is established at home, the child's carers confirm that they would like the child to have blended diet feeds in their educational setting.

HEFT provides carers with '*resource for families*' (name to be confirmed) for them to complete. This will establish the expectations and wishes in the educational setting.

If necessary, HEFT will then adapt the child's feeding plan to reflect expected feeding practice in school. E.g. If carers cold blends in school, the feeding plan will be updated with these instructions.

HEFT inform the child's educational setting that the child will require blended diet feeds when attending the setting. HEFT provides the educational setting with:

- Child's feeding plan
- Action/Care plan
- Relevant risk assessment

The setting adapts the risk assessment (as required) and signs it off.

The setting request blended diet feeding training from the Community Nurse Trainer (CNT) team

The CNT will confirm with HEFT that the child is having blended diet feeds, and that they have a feeding plan and an action/care plan in place to support this.

CNT will check with the setting if they also require gastrostomy care training

The educational setting completes the blended diet feeding checklist. This involves confirming that:

- They have the staffing level/ratio required to be able to administer blended diet feeds.
- The staff have completed relevant food hygiene training.
- They have the equipment needed for blended diet feeding.
- Their insurance policy covers blended diet feeding.
- They have signed off the relevant risk assessment/s.

CNT confirms with the educational setting that it has completed the necessary requisites before training

CNT sets up clinicalskills.net training accounts for the relevant educational setting staff members. CNT emails the training instructions to these staff

CNT will provide setting with a template document for recording the administration of blended diet feeds

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CNT delivers practical training for staff member/s in the educational setting. This training will consist of:

- A teaching session, during which blended diet feeding is discussed and the relevant practical skills are demonstrated by CNT, using a manikin.
- The staff member/s will then be supervised preparing and administering blended diet feeds to the child. Each staff member will be supervised a minimum of once. The number of supervised practice sessions they will require will depend on how quickly they develop the skills and confidence required to give the care safely independently.

Whilst staff training is in progress, the child's blended diet feeds in the setting will need to be administered by their main carer (if to be administered)

Once the staff member has demonstrated that they are competent in blended diet feeding, they will be 'signed off' as competent by the CNT. If the staff member has not previously completed gastrostomy care training, they will complete this training and be 'signed off' as competent at the same time.

CNT informs HEFT once staff member/s have completed training and are able to administer child's blended diet feeds in the educational setting

HEFT adds the requirement for the child to have blended diet feeds in their educational setting to their EHCP. HEFT oversee this element of the child's EHCP whilst it remains on the EHCP.

The CNT will invite any staff members administering blended diet feeds in the subsequent academic year to complete 'refresher training'. The CNT will confirm with the educational setting which staff require this training