



## **Policy for Managing Medicines in School**

### **Rationale**

Wherever possible children should be educated with their peers, regardless of short or long term needs for medication. This principle will result, from time to time in the school agreeing to administer essential prescribed medication to children so that they are able to attend school. Medicines should only be administered in school when it would be detrimental to a child's health or attendance not to do so.

### **Aims**

- To enable those children who are well enough to attend school, but who require essential prescribed medication, to receive that medication
- To ensure that the administration of any medication which can be taken outside of school hours is undertaken by the parents/carers
- To clearly establish the responsibility of parents/carers in the administration of medicine and what the school is prepared to undertake on a voluntary basis.

### **Guidelines**

- Parents / carers have prime responsibility for their child's health and should provide school with accurate and up to date information about any medical condition where treatment or special care is needed.
- Parents/carers should ask doctors, wherever possible, to prescribe medication in dose frequencies which can be taken outside of school hours.
- School will follow the LA policy and guidance within the DFE 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions statutory guidance for governing bodies of maintained schools and proprietors of academies in England' April 2014
- School does not administer to children any non-prescribed medication.
- The parent/carer of a child who requires essential or prescribed medication during the school day brings the medication to the school office and completes a parental request form. Medication will only be accepted in the original container, correctly labelled with information including the child's name, dosage and correct storage information. The only exception may be insulin which must still be in date but will generally be inside an insulin pen or pump.
- The Head Teacher will then complete a form indicating that approval has been given to administer the medication during school hours.
- An individual care plan is completed for long term medical needs.
- An individual record of medication sheet will be issued for each child.

- The medication is stored in the First Aid cupboard or refrigerator in the Main Office. It is administered by a First aider. The person who administers the medication must sign the record to indicate they have done so.
- The medication is returned to the parent / carer at the end of the day or on the date specified.
- Children are not allowed to deliver or collect medication.
- Confidentiality of information will be maintained in all medical / health matters
- Children who have asthma which is managed by the use of inhalers should keep the inhalers in their own classroom for ease of access. Inhalers should be taken out to PE sessions and on school visits. Staff will supervise the use of the inhaler and seek further advice if treatment appears to be ineffective. Epipens must also be taken out on school visits.
- Approved medication for a child (with all forms completed and filed) is taken by the adult in charge of the party who will assume responsibility for its administration and safe keeping. This responsibility may be delegated if appropriate to the first aider with the party.
- Staff will undertake relevant training in both the managing and administering of medicines and in supporting individual children with specific medical needs.
- School will enlist the support of health professionals to provide both generic and specific advice and training for school staff e.g. in diabetes, Epipen use, asthma, allergies and anaphylaxis.
- School will work with and act upon the advice, including technical support, for children with complex and long-term medical needs and conditions and /or who are dependent on medical technology.

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