

All Saints Kirkby Overblow Primary School

Managing Medicines

All Saints Primary School is committed to reducing the barriers to sharing in school life and learning for all its pupils. This policy sets out the steps which the school will take to ensure full access to learning for all its children who have medical needs and are able to attend school.

1. Managing prescription medicines which need to be taken during the school day.

- 1.1 Parents should provide full information about their child's medical needs.
- 1.2 Short-term prescription requirements should only be brought to school if it is detrimental to the child's health not to have the medicine during the school day.
- 1.2 The school will **not** accept medicines that have been taken out of the container as originally dispensed, nor make changes to prescribed dosages.
- 1.3 The school will not administer medicines that have not been prescribed by a doctor, dentist, nurse prescriber or pharmacist prescriber.
- 1.4 Some medicines prescribed for children (e.g methylphenidate, known as Ritalin) are controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act. Members of staff may administer a controlled drug, in accordance with the prescriber's instructions. The school will keep controlled drugs in a locked non-portable container, to which only named staff will have access. A record of access to the container will be kept. Misuse of a controlled drug is an offence, and will be dealt with under the school's behaviour code.
- 1.5 Medicines should always be provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and should include the prescriber's instructions for administration. In all cases this should include:
 - Name of child
 - Name of medicine
 - Dose
 - Method of administration
 - Time/frequency of administration
 - Any side effects
 - Expiry date
- 1.6 The school will refer to the DfE guidance document when dealing with any other particular issues relating to managing medicines.

2. Procedures for managing prescription medicines on trips and outings and during sporting activities

- 2.1 The school will consider what reasonable adjustments might be made to enable children with medical needs to participate fully and safely on visits. This may extend to reviewing and revising the visits policy and procedures so that planning arrangements incorporate the necessary steps to include children with medical needs. It might also incorporate risk assessments for such children.
- 2.2 If staff are concerned about how they can best provide for a child's safety, or the safety of other children on a visit, they should seek parental views and medical advice from the school health service or the child's GP. Please refer to the DfE guidance on planning educational visits.
- 2.3.1 The school will support children wherever possible in participating in physical activities and extra-curricular sport. Any restriction on a child's ability to participate in PE should be recorded on their Health Care Plan.
- 2.4 Some children may need to take precautionary measures before or during exercise, and may need access, for example, to asthma inhalers. Staff supervising sporting activities will be made aware of relevant medical conditions, and will consider the need for a risk assessment to be made.
- 2.5 The school will cooperate with the Local Authority in fulfilling its responsibilities regarding home to school transport. This may include giving advice regarding a child's medical needs.

3. The roles and responsibilities of staff managing administration of medicines, and for administering or supervising the administration of medicines

- 3.1 Close co-operation between schools, parents, health professionals and other agencies will help provide a suitably supportive environment for children with medical needs.
- 3.2 It is important that responsibility for child safety is clearly defined and that each person responsible for a child with medical needs is aware of what is expected of them.
- 3.3 The school will always take full account of temporary, supply and peripatetic staff when informing staff of arrangements for the administration of medicines.

- 3.4 The school will always designate a minimum of two people (currently Louise Newport, Headteacher and Mary Boyd, School Business Manager) to be responsible for the administering of medicine to a child.
- 3.5 Any controlled drugs which have been prescribed for a child must be kept in safe custody.
- 3.6 If a child refuses to take medicine, staff will not force them to do so. Staff should record the incident and follow agreed procedures. Parents will be informed of the refusal on the same day. If refusal results in an emergency, the school's normal emergency procedures will be followed.

4. Parental responsibilities in respect of their child's medical needs

- 4.1 It is the parents' responsibility to provide the head teacher with sufficient information about their child's medical needs if treatment or special care is needed.
- 4.2 Parents are expected to work with the headteacher to reach an agreement on the school's role in supporting their child's medical needs, in accordance with the school's policy.
- 4.3 The headteacher should have parental agreement before passing on information about their child's health to other staff. Sharing information is important if staff and parents are to ensure the best care for a child.
- 4.4 If parents have difficulty understanding or supporting their child's medical condition themselves, they should be encouraged to contact either the school nurse or the health visitor, as appropriate.
- 4.5 It is the parents' responsibility to keep their children at home when they are acutely unwell.
- 4.6 It requires only one parent/carer to agree to or request that medicines are administered to a child. It is likely that this will be the parent with whom the school has day-to-day contact.
- 4.7 Prior written agreement should be obtained from parents/carers for any medicines to be given to a child.

5. Assisting children with long-term or complex medical needs

Where there are long-term medical needs for a child, a Health Care Plan should be completed, involving both parents and relevant health professionals.

- 5.1 A Health Care Plan clarifies for staff, parents and the child the help that can be provided. It is important for staff to be guided by the child's GP or paediatrician.
- 5.2 The school will agree with parents how often they should jointly review the health care plan. It is sensible to do this at least once a year, but much depends on the nature of the child's particular needs; some would need reviewing more frequently.
- 5.3 The school will judge each child's needs individually as children and young people vary in their ability to cope with poor health or a particular medical condition. Plans will also take into account a pupil's age and need to take personal responsibility.
- 5.4 Developing a Health Care Plan should not be onerous, although each plan will contain different levels of detail according to the needs of the individual child.
- 5.5 In addition to input from the school health service, the child's GP or other health care professionals depending on the level of support the child needs, those who may need to contribute to a health care pro forma include the:
 - Headteacher
 - Parent or carer
 - Child (if appropriate)
 - Early Years Practitioner/Class Teacher
 - Care assistant or support staff
 - Staff who are trained to administer medicines
 - Staff who are trained in emergency procedures
- 5.6 The school will consult the DCFS publication '*Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Settings*' when dealing with the needs of children with the following common conditions:
 - Asthma
 - Epilepsy
 - Diabetes
 - Anaphylaxis

6 **Policy on children carrying and taking their prescribed medicines themselves**

An example of this would be a child with asthma using an inhaler.

- 6.1 It is good practice to support and encourage pupils, who are able, to take responsibility to manage their own medicines.

- 6.2 There is no set age when a child or young person can take responsibility for their own medication. This needs to be a joint decision between school, parents/carers and the pupil.
- 6.3 Where pupils have been prescribed controlled drugs, these must be kept in safe custody. Pupils could access them for self-medication if it was agreed that this was appropriate.

7. Staff support and training in dealing with medical needs

- 7.1 The school will ensure that staff receive proper support and training where necessary, in line with the contractual duty on headteachers to ensure that their staff receive the training. The headteacher will agree when and how such training takes place, in their capacity as a line manager. The head of the school will make sure that all staff and parents are aware of the policy and procedures for dealing with medical needs.
- 7.2 Staff who have a child with medical needs in their class or group will be informed about the nature of the condition, and when and where the child may need extra attention.
- 7.3 The child's parents and health professionals should provide the information specified above.
- 7.4 All staff should be aware of the likelihood of an emergency arising and what action to take if one occurs.
- 7.5 Back up cover should be arranged for when the member of staff responsible is absent or unavailable.
- 7.6 At different times of the day other staff, such as lunchtime supervisors, may be responsible for children. They will also be provided with training and advice.
- 7.7 The school will ensure that there are sufficient members of support staff who manage medicines as part of their duties. This includes the specification of such duties in their job description and participation in appropriate training.
- 7.8 Any member of staff who agrees to accept responsibility for administering prescribed medicines to a child will have appropriate training and guidance. They will also be made aware of possible side effects of the medicines, and what to do if they occur. The type of training necessary will depend on the individual case.

7.9 Teachers' conditions of employment do not include giving or supervising a pupil taking medicines. Agreement to do so must be voluntary.

8 Record keeping

8.1 Parents should tell the school about the medicines that their child needs to take and provide details of any changes to the prescription or the support required. However the school will make sure that this information is the same as that provided by the prescriber. Any change in prescription should be supported by either new directions on the packaging of medication or by a supporting letter from a medical professional.

8.2 The school will record short-term administration of medication. Consent forms should be delivered personally by the consenting parent/carer.

8.3 The school will record long-term administration of medication. Consent forms should be delivered personally by the consenting parent/carer.

8.4 It is the parent/carer's responsibility to monitor when further supplies of medication are needed in the school. It is not the school's responsibility.

8.5 All early years providers **must** keep written records of all medicines administered to children.

8.6 Although there is no similar legal requirement for schools to keep records of medicines given to pupils, and the staff involved, it is good practice to do so. Records offer protection to staff and proof that they have followed agreed procedures. This school will keep a record of medicines given.

9. Safe storage of medicines

9.1 The school will only store, supervise and administer medicine that has been prescribed for an individual child with the exception of emergency salbutamol inhalers and adrenaline auto-injectors (see section 12)

9.2 Medicines will be stored strictly in accordance with product instructions - paying particular note to temperature and in the original container in which dispensed.

9.3 Staff will ensure that the supplied container is clearly labelled with the name of the child, the name and dose of the medicine and the frequency of administration.

- 9.4 Where a child needs two or more prescribed medicines, each will be in a separate container.
- 9.5 Non-healthcare staff will never transfer medicines from their original containers.
- 9.6 Children will be informed where their own medicines are stored and who holds the key.
- 9.7 All emergency medicines, such as asthma inhalers and adrenaline pens, will be readily available to children and will not be locked away.
- 9.8 This school will allow children to carry their own inhalers.
- 9.9 Other non-emergency medicines will be kept in a secure place not accessible to children.
- 9.10 A few medicines need to be refrigerated. They will be kept in a refrigerator containing food but will be in an airtight container and clearly labelled. There will be restricted access to a refrigerator holding medicines.
- 9.11 Access to Medicines - Children need to have immediate access to their medicines when required. The school will make special access arrangements for emergency medicines that it keeps. However, it is also important to make sure that medicines are kept securely and only accessible to those for whom they are prescribed. This will be considered as part of the policy about children carrying their own medicines.

10. Disposal of Medicines

- 10.1 The school will not dispose of medicines. Parents are responsible for ensuring that date-expired medicines are returned to a pharmacy for safe disposal.
- 10.2 Parents should also collect medicines held at the end of each term. If parents do not collect all medicines, they will be taken to a local pharmacy for safe disposal.
- 10.3 Sharps boxes will always be used for the disposal of needles. Collection and disposal of the boxes will be arranged with the Local Authority.

11. Hygiene and Infection Control

- 11.1 All staff should be familiar with normal precautions for avoiding infection and follow basic hygiene procedures

- 11.2 Staff will have access to protective disposable gloves and will take care when dealing with spillages of blood or other body fluids, and disposing of dressings or equipment.

12. Emergency adrenaline auto-injectors and salbutamol inhalers

- 12.1 The school have chosen to keep emergency Salbutamol inhalers and spacers in school for use by children who have a diagnosis of asthma and whose parent/s have given written permission for their child to use it. This would be in rare circumstances where an inhaler has become lost or unusable. Parents will be informed if their child has used the schools emergency inhaler.
- 12.2 The school have chosen to keep emergency adrenaline auto-injectors (AAI) for use by children who are at risk of anaphylaxis and whose parent/s have given written permission for their child to use it. The school's spare AAI can be administered to a pupil whose own prescribed AAI cannot be administered correctly without delay
- 12.3 In the event of a possible severe reaction in a pupil who does not meet these criteria, emergency services (999) should be contacted and advice sought from them as to whether administration of the spare emergency inhalers or epi-pens is appropriate.

13. Access to the school emergency procedures

- 13.1 As part of general risk management processes the school will have arrangements in place for dealing with emergency situations.
- 13.2 Other children should know what to do in the event of an emergency, such as telling a member of staff.
- 13.3 All staff should know how to call the emergency services.
- 13.4 All staff should also know who is responsible for carrying out emergency procedures in the event of need.
- 13.5 A member of staff will always accompany a child taken to hospital by ambulance, and will stay until the parent arrives.
- 13.6 Health professionals are responsible for any decisions on medical treatment when parents are not available.
- 13.7 Staff should never take children to hospital in their own car; it is safer to call an ambulance.
- 13.8 Individual Health Care Plans will include instructions as to how to manage a child in an emergency, and identify who has the responsibility in an emergency. Those with responsibility at different

times of day (e.g. lunchtime supervisor) will need to be very clear of their role.

14. Risk assessment and management procedures

This policy will operate within the context of the school's Health and Safety Policy.

14.1 The school will ensure that risks to the health of others are properly controlled.

14.2 The school will provide, where necessary, individual risk assessments for pupils or groups with medical needs.

14.3 The school will be aware of the health and safety issues relating to dangerous substances and infection.

Date 12th January 2018

Contacting Emergency Services

Request for an Ambulance

Dial 999, ask for ambulance and be ready with the following information

1. Your telephone number
01423 872491
2. Give your location as follows
All Saints CE School, Main Street Kirkby Overblow
3. State that the postcode is
HG3 1HD
4. Give exact location in the school/setting
5. Give your name
6. Give name of child and a brief description of child's symptoms
7. Inform Ambulance Control of the best entrance and state that the crew will be met and taken to

Speak clearly and slowly and be ready to repeat information if asked

Put a completed copy of this form by the telephone

Parental request for medicine to be taken at school

School staff will not give your child medicine unless you complete and sign this form. The school has a policy that the staff can administer certain medicines.

Childs name:		DOB:
Medical condition/illness:		Class/form:
Name/type of medicine (as described on the container)	NB: Medicines must be in the original container as dispensed by the pharmacy	
Expiry date		
Dosage and method		
Times of day medicine is to be administered		
Date and time the most recent dose was given (school should not give the first dose of a medicine)		
Special precautions / instructions		
Are there any side effects that the school needs to know about?		
Procedures to take in an emergency		

The above information is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate at the time of writing and I give consent to school staff administering medicine in accordance with the school policy and the prescribers instructions.

I will inform the school immediately, in writing, if there is any change in dosage or frequency of the medication or if the medicine is stopped.

I understand that, where medicine is not self- administered, it will be given by non-medically qualified staff.

I agree not to hold staff responsible for loss, damage or injury when undertaking agreed administration/supervision of medication unless resulting from their negligence

I will abide by the schools policy and procedure for the delivery and return of medication

I will ensure adequate supply of in date medication

Name of Parent.....

Signature of parent..... Date.....

Relationship to Child.....

School Consent:

- The school agree to administer the above as requested
- Staff administering medication or supervising the administration of medication have received any necessary training
- Staff are insured to undertake the above

Name of Headteacher/designated person.....

Signature

.....Date.....

NB : If more than 1 medication is to be administered then a separate form should be used for each one.

CONSENT FORM:

Use of school's own emergency salbutamol inhaler

Child's name:

DOB.....

Class / form.....

1. I can confirm that my child has been diagnosed with asthma / has been prescribed an inhaler [delete as appropriate].
2. I will ensure my child has a working, in-date inhaler, clearly labelled with their name, which will be in school every day.
3. In the event of my child displaying symptoms of asthma, and if their inhaler is not available or is unusable, I consent for my child to receive salbutamol from an emergency inhaler held by the school for such emergencies.

Signed:

Date:

Name
(print).....

Relationship to
child.....

CONSENT FORM:

Use of school's own emergency adrenaline auto-injector

Child's name:

DOB.....

Class / form.....

1. I can confirm that my child is at risk of anaphylaxis has been prescribed an adrenaline auto-injector (AAI).
2. I will ensure my child has a working, in-date AAI, clearly labelled with their name, which will be in school every day.
3. In the event of my child displaying symptoms of anaphylaxis, and if their AAI is not available or is unusable, I consent for the school's spare AAI to be administered.

Signed:

Date:

Name
(print).....

Relationship to
child.....