



The Polesworth School
 ENSURING EXCELLENCE

Title of Policy: Administration of Medicines Policy

Member of leadership team with lead responsibility for oversight and update of policy	HOW
Approved at SLT	November 2015
Approved at Governing Body	December 2015
Policy review cycle	Bi-annually
Policy review date	December 2017

School Context

The purpose of this policy is to put into place effective management systems and arrangements to support children and young people with medical needs in our school. Additionally, this policy provides clear guidance for staff and parents/carers on the administration of medicines. This policy statement must be considered in conjunction with other relevant policies such as the Health and Safety Policy.

Roles and Responsibilities: School Staff

All members of staff have a duty to maintain professional standards of care and to ensure that children and young people are safe. Our school will monitor and review individual needs and administer medicines in order to meet the all-round needs of the child. There is no legal duty requiring staff to administer medication or to supervise a child when taking medicines. This is a voluntary role.

In response to the Equality Act 2010, we make reasonable adjustments for disabled school users, including those with medical needs, and we plan strategically to improve access over time. We also make reasonable adjustments to enable students with medical needs to participate fully in all areas of school life, including educational visits and sporting activities.

The Head of School, in consultation with the Governing Body, staff, parents/carers, health professionals and the local authority will decide how our school can assist a child with medical needs. The Head of School is responsible for:

- Implementing the policy on a daily basis;
- Ensuring that the procedures are understood and implemented;
- Ensuring appropriate training is provided;
- Making sure that there is effective communication with parents/carers, students, staff and all relevant health professionals concerning students' health needs.

Staff will be informed of any student's medical needs where this is relevant and of any changes to their needs, as and when they might arise. A list of staff who have undertaken First Aid at Work and Emergency First Aid training is kept in the main school office and by the Facilities Manager.

Roles and Responsibilities: Parents/Carers

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to:

- Inform the school of their child's medical needs
- Provide any medication in a container clearly labelled with the following:
 - The child's name
 - Name of medicine
 - Dose and frequency of medication
 - Any special storage arrangements

For students who require regular prescription medication a 7-day pill box should be used to ensure that the correct medication is taken when needed (these are available from the main school reception).

- Collect and dispose of any medications held in school at the end of each term or which have reached their expiry date if before the end of term.
- Ensure that medicines have NOT passed the expiry date.

Student Information

At the start of each school year, parents/carers should give the following information about their child's long term medical needs. This information must be updated as and when required and at least annually:

- Details of student's medical needs;
- Medication including any side effects;
- Allergies;
- Name of GP/Consultants;
- Special requirements e.g. dietary needs, pre-activity precautions;
- What to do and who to contact in an emergency;
- Cultural and religious views regarding medical care.

Administering Medication

We expect parents/carers to administer medication to their children at home. No medication will be administered without prior written permission from the parents/carers including written medical authority if the medicine needs to be altered (e.g. crushing of tablets). A 'Request to Administer Medication' form must be completed. Staff members are not legally required to administer medicines or to supervise a student when taking medicine. This is a voluntary role.

The Head of School will determine if medication is to be administered in school, and by whom, following consultation with staff. All medicine will normally be administered during breaks and lunchtimes. If, for medical reasons, medicine has to be taken during the day, arrangements will be made for the medicine to be administered at other prescribed times whenever possible. Prescription medicine will only be administered by a qualified First Aider.

Any member of staff, giving medicine to a student, should check the following on each occasion;

- Name of student;
- Written instructions provided by the parents/carers or doctor;
- Prescribed dose;
- Expiry date.

Written permission from parents/carers will be required for students to self-administer medicine(s). A 'Request to Self- Administer Medication' form must be completed.

Carrying Medicines

For safety reasons, students are not permitted to carry medication unless agreed on an individual basis. Such arrangements will only be agreed after completion of a 'Request for child to carry his/her own medicine' form. All other medicines must be handed into the Main School Reception on entry to the school premises. Students are allowed to carry their own inhalers.

Storage

All medicine in the care of the school will be kept locked in the medical room. All medicine will be logged on to the students' records.

Records

Each time medication is given to a child, a member of staff, will complete and sign the records, kept in the Main School Reception. These sheets record the following:

- Name of student;
- Date and time of administration;
- Who supervised the administration;
- Name of medication;
- Dosage;
- A note of any side effects;
- If medicine has been altered for administration (e.g. crushing tablets) and evidence of authorisation for doing so.

Refusing Medication

If a child refuses to take their medication, no member of staff will force them to do so. Parents/carers and the student's Head of House will be informed as soon as possible. Refusal to take medication will be recorded and dated on the child's record sheet. Reasons for refusal and any action then taken by the staff member will also be recorded.

Training

Training and advice will be accessed from health professionals for staff involved in the administration of medicines. Training for all staff will be provided on a range of medical needs, including any resultant learning needs as and when appropriate.

Health Care Plan

When appropriate, a personal Health Care Plan, will be drawn up in consultation with school, parents/carers and health professionals. The Health Care Plan will

outline the student's needs and the level of support required in school. Health Care Plans will be reviewed at least annually.

Educational Visits

To enable, as far as possible, all students to have access to all activities and areas of school life, a risk assessment will be undertaken to ensure the safety of all participants in educational visits. No decision about a child with medical needs attending/not attending a school visit will be taken without prior consultation with parents/carers.

Residential Visits

Sufficient essential medicines and appropriate health care plans will be taken and controlled by the member of staff supervising the visit. If additional supervision is required for activities e.g. swimming, we may request the assistance of the parent/carer.

Emergency Procedures

The Head of School will ensure that all members of staff are aware of the school's planned emergency procedures in the event of medical needs.

Parental Request for Student to Self-Administer Medication or for School to Administer Medication to a Student



The School cannot give your child permission to self-administer medicine, or give them medicine, unless you complete and sign this form and the Head of School has agreed.

Personal Details

Name of student:
Contact telephone number:
Condition or illness:

Medication

Name/ type of medication: (as described on the container)
Special storage requirements:
Date dispensed:
How long will your child take this medication?

Full Directions for Use

Dosage:
Frequency/timing:
Method:
Any particular problems with administration?
Side effects:

Parental Declaration

I will ensure that the appropriate staff members are aware when medicine arrives at school. I will complete another form if any of the above information changes.

- I consent to my child self-administering their medication
- I consent to the school administering medication to my child as outlined above. (Tick as applicable)

Signature:

Date:

Relationship to child:



Record of the Administration of Medicines

Name of Student:
Name of Medication:
Dosage:

Date and time of administration (or refusal)	Administrator	Alteration to medication (if any)	Side effects (if any)	Signature (of staff member or write student if self-administering)



Health Care Plan

Name of school	The Polesworth School
Student's name	
Tutor Group & Year Group	
Date of birth	
Child's address	
Medical diagnosis or condition	
Date	
Review date	

Family Contact Information

Name	
Phone numbers	(work)
	(home)
	(mobile)
Name	
Phone numbers	(work)
	(home)
	(mobile)

Clinic/Hospital Contact

Name	
Position	
Phone number	
GP's name	
Phone number	

Describe student's medical needs and give details of symptoms

Daily care requirements (e.g. before sport/at lunchtime)

Describe what constitutes an emergency for the child, and the action to take if this occurs

Follow up care

Who is responsible in an emergency? (State if different for off-site activities)

Form copied to

Request for Student to Carry His/Her Own Medicine

This form must be completed by parents/carer
If staff have any concerns they must discuss this request with healthcare professionals

Name of school	The Polesworth School
Student's name	
Tutor Group & Year Group	
Home Address	
Name of medicine	
Procedures to be taken in an emergency	

Contact Information

Name	
Telephone numbers	(home) (mobile) (work)
Relationship to child	

I would like my son/daughter to keep his/her medicine on him/her for use as necessary and my son/daughter will be responsible for this at all times.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Permission for students to carry their own medication is normally only granted for inhalers. If more than one medicine is to be given, a separate form should be completed for each one.