

Administering Medicines

We believe this policy should be a working document that is fit for purpose, represents the school ethos, enables consistency and quality across the school and is related to the following legislation:

- Medicines Act 1968
- Misuse of Drugs Act 1971
- Health and Safety at Work, etc Act 1974
- Children Act 1989
- Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992
- Education Act 1996
- Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998
- Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001
- Education Act 2002
- Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2002
- Children 2004
- Equality Act 2010
- School Premises (England) Regulations 2012
- Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013
- Children and Families Act 2014

The following documentation is also related to this policy:

- Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions (Statutory guidance for governing bodies of maintained schools and proprietors of academies in England) (DfE)
- Equality Act 2010: Advice for Schools (DfE)
- Race Disparity Audit - Summary Findings from the Ethnicity Facts and Figures Website (Cabinet Office)

We acknowledge that under the standard terms and conditions for the employment of school staff there is no legal duty for them to administer or to supervise a child taking medication. Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions clearly states that 'Any member of school staff may be asked to provide support to pupils with medical conditions, including the administering of medicines, although they cannot be required to do so. Although administering medicines is not part of teachers' professional duties, they should take into account the needs of pupils with medical conditions that they teach.'

Administration of medicines by any member of the school personnel is undertaken purely on a voluntary basis and individual decisions will be respected. However, volunteer personnel will be expected to undertake sufficient and suitable training and to achieve the necessary level of competency before they are able to administer medicines.

We ensure all school personnel and supply teachers:

- are trained in first aid;

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- will attend periodic first aid refresher training;
- are trained in how to administer medication in the case of a severe allergic reaction;
- are familiar with the Individual Health Care Plans of pupils in their care;
- know what to do in an emergency;
- are aware that allergy management strategies are incorporated into risk assessments for all school events, educational visits and sporting events.

We work hard to have in place and to maintain a system that ensures all medical care plans are kept up to date and are available at all times to school personnel who may need them in an emergency. It is vital that all medical care plans clearly indicate whether a pupil needs emergency medication such as asthma inhalers or epipens.

Those members of the school personnel who have volunteered to administer or supervise the taking of medication attend regular refresher training and are up to date with the medical care plans for those pupils with specific medical needs or emergency medication.

Medicines will only be administered that have been prescribed by a doctor or some other authorised person and where it would be detrimental to a child's health if the medicine were not administered during the day. Non-prescription medicines will not be administered by staff but parents/carers can make arrangements at lunch time to administer the medication to their child.

We wish to work closely with the School Council and to hear their views and opinions as we acknowledge and support Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child that children should be encouraged to form and to express their views.

We as a school community have a commitment to promote equality. Therefore, an equality impact assessment has been undertaken and we believe this policy is in line with the Equality Act 2010.

We all have a responsibility to ensure equality permeates in to all aspects of school life and that everyone is treated equally irrespective of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. We want everyone connected with this school to feel safe, secure, valued and of equal worth.

We acknowledge the findings of the Race Disparity Audit that clearly shows how people of different ethnicities are treated across the public services of health, education, employment and the criminal justice system.

The educational section of the audit that covers: differences by region; attainment and economic disadvantage; exclusions and abuse; and destinations, has a significant importance for the strategic planning of this school.

We believe it is essential that this policy clearly identifies and outlines the roles and responsibilities of all those involved in the procedures and arrangements that is connected with this policy.

Aims

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- To outline the procedures for administering prescribed medicines to pupils.
- To ensure compliance with all relevant legislation connected to this policy.
- To work with other schools and the local authority to share good practice in order to improve this policy.

Responsibility for the Policy and Procedure

Role of the Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- ensure all school personnel, pupils and parents are aware of and comply with this policy;
- ensure designated persons undertake suitable and sufficient training;
- ensure designated persons achieve an expected level of competency after a period of training;
- ensure the administration of prescribed medicines by putting into practice effective strategies and examples of good practice;;
- provide leadership and vision in respect of equality;
- provide guidance, support and training to all staff;
- monitor the effectiveness of this policy by speaking with pupils, school personnel, parents.

Role of the Designated Person/s

Members of the school personnel who have volunteered to administer or supervise the taking of medication will:

- undertake appropriate training;
- be up to date with the Individual Health Care Plans for those pupils with specific medical needs or emergency medication such as asthma inhalers or epipens;
- be aware of Individual Health Care Plans and of symptoms which may require emergency action;
- read and check the Medical Consent Forms before administering or supervising the taking of medicines;
- check that the medication belongs to the named pupil;
- check that the medication is within the expiry date;
- inform the parent if the medication has reached its expiry date;
- confirm the dosage/frequency on each occasion and consult the medicine record form to prevent double dosage;
- record on the medication record all relevant details of when medication was given;
- return medications to the secure cabinet for storage;
- always take appropriate hygiene precautions;
- record when a child refuses to take medication;
- immediately inform the parent/carer of this refusal.

Role of the First Aider

The First Aider will:

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- lead the development of this policy throughout the school;
- work closely with the Headteacher, designated persons;
- ensure the following information is supplied by the parent/carer:
 - Name and date of birth of the child
 - Name and contact details of the parent/carer
 - Name and contact details of GP
 - Name of medicines
 - Details of prescribed dosage
 - Date and time of last dosage given
 - Consent given by parent/carer for staff to administer medication
 - Expiry date of medication
 - Storage details
- ensure all medications are kept in a secure place and accessible only to the designated persons;
- ensure all medications are kept cool in a small secure fridge;
- provide guidance and support to all staff;
- ensure a designated person will attend all educational visits in order to administer medications;
- ensure pupils have immediate access to asthma inhalers during sporting activities in the school day and during extra-curricular clubs;
- provide training for all staff on induction and when the need arises;
- keep up to date with new developments and resources;
- review and monitor.

Role of School Personnel

School personnel will:

- comply with all aspects of this policy;
- be aware that they have the right to decline administering medicines to pupils;
- implement the school's equalities policy and schemes;
- report and deal with all incidents of discrimination;
- attend appropriate training sessions on equality;
- report any concerns they have on any aspect of the school community.

Role of Pupils

Pupils will:

- be aware of and comply with this policy;
- be aware of the designated school personnel who can administer medications;
- listen carefully to all instructions given by the teacher;
- ask for further help if they do not understand;
- support the school Code of Conduct and guidance necessary to ensure the smooth running of the school;
- liaise with the school council;
- take part in questionnaires and surveys.

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Role of Parents/Carers

Parents/carers must provide:

- written permission by completing the Medication Consent Form;
- sufficient medical information on their child's medical condition;
- the medication in its original container;
- sufficient medicine for the dosage to be given in school.

Raising Awareness of this Policy

We will raise awareness of this policy via:

- the School Handbook/Prospectus
- the school website
- the Staff Handbook
- meetings with parents such as introductory, transition, parent-teacher consultations
- school events
- meetings with school personnel
- communications with home such newsletters
- information displays in the main entrance

Training

All school personnel:

- have equal chances of training, career development and promotion
- receive training related to this policy on induction which specifically covers:
 - Health and Safety
 - Medical and First Aid
 - general information about medication
 - administering medications
 - safe use and storage of medications
 - dealing with emergencies
 - Asthma
 - Diabetes
 - Epilepsy
 - Sharps and Needles
 - Manual Handling
- receive periodic training so that they are kept up to date with new information
- receive equal opportunities training on induction

Equality Impact Assessment

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Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school.

Monitoring the Implementation and Effectiveness of the Policy

The practical application of this policy will be reviewed annually or when the need arises.

A statement of the policy's effectiveness and the necessary recommendations for improvement will be presented for further discussion and endorsement.

Linked Policies

- Asthma
- Diabetes
- Epilepsy
- Health and Safety
- Manual Handling
- Medical and First Aid
- Sharps and Needles

See Appendices Documents section on Policies for Schools Website

- Frequency of Policy Monitoring
- Monitoring Implementation and Policy Effectiveness Action Plan
- Initial Equality Impact Assessment
- Policy Evaluation
- Policy Approval Form

Headteacher:	D.Robinson	Date:	11 February 2018
		Review Date:	11 February 2019