

Hope Brook Church of England Primary School



Administration of Medication Policy

The staff and governors are committed to the development of each child in a positive, healthy and respectful learning environment to encourage all children to achieve their fullest potential.

We want all the children and adults to achieve success through their own efforts, teamwork, self-discipline and motivation; and through links with the Church, the local community and the global community, work towards a better future for themselves and the world in which they live.

PURPOSE

This policy sets out the circumstances in which we may administer medicines within school, and the procedures that we will follow.

1. Introduction

Most pupils will at some time have a medical condition that may affect their participation in school activities and for many this will be short-term. Other pupils have medical conditions that, if not properly managed, could limit their access to education. Most children with medical needs are able to attend school regularly and, with some support from the school, can take part in most normal school activities. Hope Brook C of E Primary School is committed to ensuring that children with medical needs have the same right of access as other children.

2. The Role of Parents/Carers

Parents/carers should, wherever possible, administer or supervise the self-administration of medication to their children. This may be by spacing the doses so that they are not required within school hours, or by the parent/carer coming in to school at lunch time to administer the medication. However, this might not be practicable and in such a case parents/carer may make a request for medication to be administered to the child at school. If medicine needs to be administered during school time, then a parent or carer must bring it to the school office and fill in the Administration of Medication Permission and Record form (Appendix 1). Medication must not be given to the class teacher, or brought into school by the child themselves. If medication is for a short term condition, any remaining medication must be collected from the office by a parent or carer at the end of the school day.

3. Prescription Medication

Prescription medicines should be administered at home wherever possible. Prescription medicines will only be administered by the school where it would be detrimental to a child's health if it were not done. Medicines should always be provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include the prescriber's instructions for administration. The exception to this is insulin which must still be in date, but will generally be available to school inside an insulin pen or a pump, rather than in its original container.

The following information should be visible:

- Name of child
- Name of medicine
- Dosage
- Written instructions provided by prescriber
- Expiry date

An Administration of Medicine Permission & Record form (Appendix 1) must be completed and signed by the parent / carer. No medication will be given without the parent's written consent. Prescribed medication, other than emergency medication, will be kept in the main office or the staffroom refrigerator as appropriate. All emergency medicines (asthma inhalers, epi-pens etc.) should be kept in the child's classroom and be readily available. A second Epi-pen for each child who requires one will be kept in the Medical Room, in a box clearly labelled with the child's name.

4. Long Term Medical Needs

It is important for the school to have sufficient information regarding the medical condition of any pupil with long term medical needs. The school will draw up a health care plan for such pupils, involving the parents and the relevant health professionals.

Refer to the 'Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions' (DfE Dec 2015) for more information.

Appropriate training will be arranged for the administration of any specialist medication (e.g. adrenaline via an epipen, insulin etc.) Staff should not administer such medicines until they have been trained to do so.

5. Controlled Drugs

Controlled drugs, such as Ritalin, are controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act. Therefore, it is imperative that controlled drugs are strictly managed between the school and parents. Ideally controlled drugs are only brought in on a daily basis by parents, but certainly no more than a week's supply and the amount of medication handed over to the school should always be recorded.

Controlled drugs should be stored in a locked non portable container, such as the medical cabinet, and only specific named staff allowed access to it. Each time the drug is administered it must be recorded, including if the child refused to take it.

If pupils refuse to take medication, school staff should not force them to do so. The school should inform the child's parents as a matter of urgency. If necessary, the school should call the emergency services. The person administering the controlled drug should monitor that the drug has been taken.

Passing a controlled drug to another child is an offence under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

As with all medicines, any unused medication should be recorded as being returned back to the parent when no longer required. If this is not possible it should be returned to the dispensing pharmacist. It should not be thrown away.

6. Non Prescription Medication

Where possible, the school will avoid administering non-prescription medicine. However, we may do so, if requested by the parent, if it will facilitate the child attending school and continuing their learning. This will usually be for a short period only, perhaps to finish a course of prescribed antibiotics, to apply a lotion or the administration of paracetamol for toothache or other pain. However, such medicines will only be administered in school where it would be detrimental to a child's health if it were not administered during the day.

A child under 16 should never be given aspirin-containing medicine, unless prescribed by a doctor.

If non-prescription medication is to be administered, then the parent/carer must complete an Administration of Medicine Consent form (Appendix 1), and the same procedure will be followed as for prescription medication. The medicine must be provided in its original container, with dosage information on it. The parent's instructions will be checked against the dosage information, and this will not be exceeded.

7. Administering Medicines

Medicines will only be administered by members of staff who have been trained in the safe administration of medicines. This will usually be the office personnel, but in their absence another appropriately trained member of staff may carry it out. Appropriate training will be arranged for the administration of any specialist medication (e.g. adrenaline via an epipen, insulin etc.) Staff should not administer such medicines until they have been trained to do so.

A list of all staff trained in administration of medicines will be maintained by the office staff. The SENDCo will maintain a record of staff trained in specialist medication for children with Health Care Plans.

When a member of staff administers medicine, they will check the child's Administration of Medication Permission and Record form against the medication, to ensure that the dose and timing are correct. They will then administer the medicine as required, and record this on the form.

For long-term medication, an Administration of Medication Continuation Sheet (Appendix 2) will be used as necessary.

8. Emergency Inhalers

In line with "Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools" March 2015, the school will keep emergency reliever (blue) inhalers for the emergency use of children whose own inhaler is not available for any reason. They will be stored in the main office, along with appropriate spacers. Parents must sign a "Consent form: use of emergency salbutamol inhaler" (Appendix 4) to consent to their child being allowed to use the emergency inhaler. These will be kept in the Asthma file in the main office.

9. Self-Management

It is important that as children get older they should be encouraged to take responsibility and manage their own medication. This should be clearly set out in the child's health care plan in agreement with the parents, bearing in mind the safety of other pupils. Staff should be aware of the need for asthmatics to carry medication with them (or for staff to take appropriate action). Children should know where their medicines are stored.

10. Refusing medication

If a child refuses to take medication staff should not force them to do so, but note this in the records and inform parents of the refusal. If the refusal leads to a medical emergency, the school will call the emergency services and inform the parents.

11. Offsite visits

It is good practice for schools to encourage pupils with medical needs to participate in offsite visits. All staff supervising visits should be aware of any medical needs and relevant emergency procedures. Where necessary, individual risk assessments will be completed. A member of staff who is trained to administer any specific medication will accompany the pupil and ensure that the appropriate medication is taken on the visit.

Inhalers must be taken for all children who suffer from asthma.

Travel Sickness - Tablets can be given with written consent from a parent but the child's name, dosage, time of dose and any possible side effects (the child must have had the travel sickness preventative at home before the trip in case of side effects) should be clearly marked on the container, which must be the original packaging.

Parents will need to complete an Administration of Medication Permission and Record form.

Residential visits – All medicines which a child needs to take should be handed to the teacher in charge of the visit. The only exception are asthma inhalers, which should be kept by the child themselves. The parents will sign a consent form for any medicines which they need to take during the visit, plus consent of emergency treatment to be administered – see example form in Appendix 3.

12. Disposal of Medicines

Office personnel will check all medicines kept in school each term to ensure that they have not exceeded their expiry date. Parents/carers will be notified of any that need to be replaced. Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring that date-expired medicines are returned to a pharmacy for safe disposal. If parents do not collect all medicines, they should be taken to a local pharmacy for safe disposal. Sharps boxes should always be used for the disposal of needles. If required, a sharps box will be provided by our local surgery and will be stored in the Medical Room. If any child requires regular injections (eg. Insulin), they will have their own sharps box which can be taken offsite with them on trips etc. The parents will be notified when the box is almost full so that they can bring in a new box and take the full box for disposal.

Date of policy: May 2019

Date of next review: May 2024

This policy was formulated in consultation with the Headteacher and teaching staff.

This policy was accepted by the Governing Body at their meeting on Wednesday 22nd May 2019, and will be reviewed in 5 years.

Signed

Signed S. Seem.....

Chair of Governors

Headteacher

Appendix 1 - Administration of Medication Permission and Record



Administration of Medication Permission and Record

Name of child: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Details of illness: _____

Medicine: _____

Times and dosage of medicine: _____

Relevant side effects to be observed if any: _____

Medicine to be administered from : _____ to: _____

Parent/Carer: I hereby give permission that the above medication, ordered by the doctor/dentist for my child _____ be administered by school personnel. I understand that I must supply the school with the prescribed medicine in the original container dispensed and properly labelled by the pharmacist and will provide no more than a 5-day supply of said medication. I understand that this medication will be destroyed if it is not picked up on the day this order terminates.

Signature: _____ Relationship to child: _____ Telephone: _____

Date	Time given	Dose given	Member of staff	Initials

Appendix 2 - Administration of Medication Continuation Sheet

Administration of Medication Continuation Sheet Sheet no. _____

Name of child: _____ **Class:** _____ **Date:** _____

Date	Time given	Dose given	Member of staff	Initials

Appendix 3: CONSENT FORM: USE OF EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL INHALER



CONSENT FORM: USE OF EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL INHALER

1. I can confirm that my child has been diagnosed with asthma / has been prescribed an inhaler [delete as appropriate].
2. My child has a working, in-date inhaler, clearly labelled with their name, which they keep in school.
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 emergency inhaler held by the school for such emergencies.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Name (print): _____

Child's name: _____

Class: _____

Parent's address and contact details:

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____