



Administration of Medicines Policy

Introduction

The Board of Management requires parents to ensure that staff members are made aware in writing of any medical condition suffered by their child. This information should be provided at enrolment or at the development of any medical conditions at a later date.

While the Board of Management has a duty to safeguard the health and safety of pupils when they are engaged in authorised school activities, this does not imply a duty upon teachers to personally undertake the administration of medication.

Medication in this policy refers to medicines, tablets and sprays administered by mouth only.

1. Procedure to be followed by parents who require the administration of medication for their children

- As a general rule,
- The parent/guardian should write to the Board of Management requesting the Board to authorise a staff member to administer the medication or to monitor self-administration of the medication.
- Parents are required to provide written instructions of the procedure to be followed in the administration and storing of the medication. (see Appendix 1)
- Parents are responsible for ensuring that the medication is delivered to the school and handed over to a responsible adult and for ensuring that an adequate supply is available.
- Parents are further required to indemnify the Board and authorised members of staff in respect of any liability that may arise regarding the administration of prescribed medicines in school. The Board will inform the school's insurers accordingly.
- Changes in prescribed medication (or dosage) should be notified immediately to the school with clear written instructions of the procedure to be followed in storing and administering the new medication.
- Where children are suffering from life threatening conditions, parents should outline clearly in writing, what should and what should not be done in a particular emergency situation, with particular reference to what may be a risk to the child.
- Parents are required to provide a telephone number where they may be contacted in the event of an emergency arising.

2. Procedures to be followed by the Board of Management

- The Board, having considered the matter, may authorise a staff member to administer medication to a pupil or to monitor the self-administration by a pupil.
- The Board will ensure that the authorised person is properly instructed in how to administer the medicine.
- The Board shall seek an indemnity from parents in respect of liability that may arise regarding the administration of the medicine
- The Board shall inform the school insurers accordingly
- The Board shall make arrangements for the safe storage of medication and procedures for the administration of medication in the event of the authorised staff member's absence.

3. Responsibilities of Staff Members

- No staff member can be required to administer medication to a pupil.
- Any staff member who is willing to administer medicines should do so under strictly controlled guidelines in the belief that the administration is safe.
- Written instructions on the administration of the medication must be provided.
- Medication must not be administered without the specific authorisation of the Board of Management.
- In administering medication to pupils, staff members will exercise the standard of care of a reasonable and prudent parent.
- A written record of the date and time of administration will be kept. (Appendix 2)
- In emergency situations, staff should do no more than is obviously necessary and appropriate to relieve extreme distress or prevent further and otherwise irreparable harm. Qualified medical treatment should be secured in emergencies at the earliest opportunity.
- Parents should be contacted should any questions or emergencies arise.

Ratification & Review

This policy will be in operation from September 2025 and will be reviewed as deemed necessary.

Signed by Judy O'Toole (Chairperson)

Date:

Signed by Mark Sheekey (Acting Principal)

Date:

APPENDIX 1

Request for Administration of Medication – Information & Consent

Child's name _____

Date of birth _____

Weight _____

Name of medication _____

Dosage _____

Under what circumstances should medication be given: _____

Condition for which medication required: _____

Other medication being taken: _____

My child CAN /CAN NOT self-administer this medication (circle one).

GP name _____ Phone no. _____

1st Emergency contact _____ Mobile no. _____

2nd Emergency contact _____ Mobile no. _____

Staff trained / untrained and willing to administer medicines if necessary:

1. _____ trained (Yes / No)

2. _____ trained (Yes / No)

3. _____ trained (Yes / No)

Storage Details: _____

I consent for staff members in the School to administer/supervise administration of _____, in dosage of _____, to my child under the circumstances outlined above. I understand that information about my child's medical condition and treatment will be shared with School staff, and in the event of an emergency with the GP or other medical personnel. I also consent to the disclosure of this information to the School's insurers if required. I / we request that the Board of Management authorise

the taking of Prescription Medicine during the school day as it is absolutely necessary for the continued well-being of my/ our child. I / we understand that the school has no facilities for the safe storage of the prescription medicines and the prescribed amounts be brought in daily. I / we understand that we must inform the school/ teacher/ SNA of any changes of medicine/ dose in writing and that I / we must inform the teacher each year of the prescription/ medical condition. I / we understand that no school personnel have any medical training and we indemnify the Board of Management, without prejudice to the generality, the said pupil's teacher, SNA and staff members from any liability that may arise from the administration of medication. I / we understand that information about my / our child's medical condition and treatment will be shared with school staff, and in the event of an emergency with the GP or other medical personnel. I /we also consent to the disclosure of this information to the school's insurer if required.

Signed: _____ Parent/ Guardian. Signed: _____ Parent / Guardian.

Date: _____

Appendix 2

Record of Administration of Medicines

Pupil's Name: _____

- Children with acute illness (i.e. colds, temperatures, etc.) are not allowed to bring any medicines to school, either prescription or non-prescription.
- If a child has a diagnosed chronic illness (such as asthma, diabetes, etc.) and may need to take medication, a parent/guardian must write to the Board of Management to request this. A doctor's certificate must accompany this request. The medicine should be self-administered if possible, under the supervision of an authorised adult.
- The above request to the Board must give the name of the child, name and dose of medication, must state whether the child should be responsible for his/her own medication, the circumstances in which medication is to be given by the teacher/special needs assistant and consent for it to be given.
- If the child cannot self-administer the required medicine, the request to the Board must include the exact dosage and times for administration.
- A teacher/SNA should not administer medication without the specific authorisation of the Board.
- Any teacher/SNA who is authorised to administer any medication does so on a voluntary basis and reserves the right to refuse.
- In any case where the class teacher/SNA is not present to administer a prescribed medication as per the Board's permission, the Principal will administer the medication instead. If the Principal is not available, the Deputy Principal fills this role.
- Where possible, parents/guardians should ask the prescribing doctor to prescribe the administration of prescribed medicines outside of school hours.
- Parents are further required to indemnify the Board of Management and authorised members of staff in respect of any liability that may arise regarding the administration of prescribed medicines in school. The Board of Management will inform the school's insurers accordingly.
- Where permission has been given by the Board of Management for the administration of medicine the smallest possible dose should be brought to school, preferably by the parent, with clear written instructions for administration, giving the name of the pupil.
- Changes in prescribed medication (or dosage) should be notified immediately to the school with clear written instructions of the procedure to be followed in storing and administering the new medication.