

Administration of Medicines Policy

This policy has been written for...	All day and residential care staff who have responsibility for the administration of medication should have a working knowledge of this policy. It is expected that group tutors will be familiar with the medication regimes of their students and familiar with the contents of this policy.
Copies of this policy may be obtained from...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The School web site - http://www.westheathschool.com • It is available as a hard copy on request from the school office • Hard copies for reference are filed in the staff room
This policy links with the following policies	Health & Safety, First Aid, Residential – Statement of Purpose, Privacy & Dignity& Medical Conditions Policy
Participants and consultees in the formulation of this policy were...	The school doctor (2009) participated in the development of this policy Our local Boots chemist is a useful source of guidance in the implementation and update of this policy
Edition, Review frequency and dates	This is edition 8 released November 2016 This policy will be reviewed annually It is due for review November 2017
Relevant statutory guidance, circulars, legislation & other sources of information are...	As such, this policy reflects the legal obligations and standards of good practice featured in relevant legislation and the Department of Health National Minimum Standards Inspection Regulations for Residential Special Schools.
The Lead Member of staff is	Head of Residential Care and Safeguarding
Definitions and key terms used in this policy...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home remedies are those remedies and medications providing symptomatic relief that can be bought over the counter without a doctor's prescription.
The Rationale and Purpose of this policy	Is to safeguard and promote the health and wellbeing of all our students. To act in accordance with legislation and other requirements.
Appendices	This policy has 2 appendices Appendix 1 – The administration of home remedies Appendix 2 – The administration of Medications
Copying	No school policy is ever written in isolation. Acknowledgement of sources of advice and significant influence in the development and recording of policies at the New School are noted on the front page. We request that any schools or organisations incorporating large sections of this policy without alteration should make similar appropriate acknowledgement.

Introduction

Students attending our school may have been diagnosed with a particular illness or condition for which they are prescribed a medication regime. They may also need the administration of home remedies to ensure their continued health and safety in the context of a learning and living environment.

The Aims of this policy

The aim of this policy is to ensure that our students experience a consistency of approach in the safe administration of their medication (including home remedies).

The Objectives to meet the above aims

- To set out clear directions for staff administering medication
- To administer medication in a manner that respects our students right to privacy and dignity at all times
- To deal sensitively with students according to their individual needs
- To ensure that appropriate measures are in place for recording the administration of medicines

Procedures & Practices relating to the implementation of this policy

Medicines will be administered privately, accurately, and recorded appropriately at all times. Training is provided for staff who administer any form of medication, this is carried out on a yearly basis and training records kept. The staff are assessed periodically throughout the year to ensure that the highest standards are maintained.

One person will have responsibility for having an “overview” of student medication needs throughout the school day and in each boarding house i.e. our school nurse and care staff responsible for the running of each boarding house respectively.

There are three broad types of medicines administered in our school. These are:

1. Those medicines which fall within the “controlled drugs” legislation,
2. Those which are prescribed by a qualified practitioner falling outside of the controlled drugs legislation
3. Home remedies, note these will be administered for a maximum of 48 hours the student will then have to be assessed by a General Practitioner

1. Controlled Drugs

Controlled drugs are stored in a non-portable locked container within a locked cupboard of each boarding house and the First Aid Room.

Controlled drugs are administered following the procedure below:

- Administration should be recorded both on the MAR and in the CD record book
- These records must be kept in a bound book with numbered pages
- There should be a separate page for each CD for each person
- Include the balance remaining for each medication. This should be checked against the amount in the pack or bottle at each administration and also on a regular basis i.e. daily
- Administration of a controlled drug should be by two trained members of staff **however** in the case of **lone working** no one should be deprived of prescribed medicine because there is only

one member of staff on duty when he or she needs it

- Administration should be in full accordance with the prescriber's instructions

2. Recording of administration

Where students are unable to self administer their medication, the following procedure should be followed by all staff.

- Two members of staff where possible should administer prescription medication
- Ensure the student's name and medication prescribed as indicated on the medication record sheet corresponds with the medication in the bottles/packs.
- Ensure the medication has not already been administered.
- Ensure the medication is administered in the prescribed manner to the named student, and that the medication has been taken correctly, and at the correct time.
- Sign the medication record sheet and ensure all medication is locked away in the cabinet.
- If a student refuses to take their medication/is absent at the time of administration, record appropriately.

- A record is kept of the names and signatures of all staff administering medication.

- Medicines no longer required by the individual student for whom they were prescribed should be returned to the Pharmacy to be destroyed.

- Trained staff will be monitored yearly and have to attend a yearly in house medication training.

- It is the responsibility of parents/carers to inform the Nurse and relevant staff of any changes in their child's condition and changes in medication, this must always be done in writing.

3. Other Prescribed Medication

These are kept in a locked cabinet, which is in turn kept in a locked office. The administration of these medicines is recorded on a Medication Record form. Staff administering these medicines complete the MAR sheet which notes time, date and dosage administered. Student medication stock is checked weekly and balance recorded.

Adrenaline auto injector If a student has been prescribed an Adrenalin Auto Injector(an Epi Pen or Jext Pen)a pre loaded device containing a measured amount of adrenalin, this will be located in the First Aid room, (and Boarding if applicable). A risk assessment should be made to assess If they are sufficiently responsible to also carry their emergency treatment on them.

Asthma Inhalers Students with Asthma need to have immediate access to their reliever inhaler when they need it, and should be encouraged to carry it in their bag/pocket. If needed a spare prescribed inhaler can be kept in the First Aid Room.

The School has four Emergency Asthma Kits containing a reliever inhaler.

Students may use this if they have been prescribed an inhaler by a Doctor, consent from parent/carer and do not have their own prescribed inhaler available. The expiry of the Emergency Asthma Kits are checked termly

Adrenaline auto injector and Inhalers will be stored in an unlocked cupboard to facilitate fast administration if required.

All medicines will be stock checked at least once per half term. These checks will be carried by two members of staff and signed by both accordingly. Similarly, a member of staff will witness the accuracy of the information recorded upon new individual student administration of medication sheets.

4. Home Remedies

Non-prescription medication may be given to the students with their consent or parental/carer consent see Appendix 1.

Homely remedies must only be given from original packaging, e.g. original boxes/bottles with the manufacturer's label.

A record of any homely remedies administered needs to be made on student's individual medication chart, noting date, time, medication, dose and reason, checking when the last dose was administered to ensure that further administration is safe.

It is good practice to observe and record the effectiveness of any medication administered if possible to do so.

Any Paracetamol administered must also be accounted for in the recording log book or chart in addition to the student/pupil's individual chart, with a note made of the balance remaining.

The administration of homely remedies is included in staff training and staff are aware of their responsibility and accountability.

Homely remedies are kept in a locked cupboard to ensure they are not accessible to students.

An additional form is available to ensure staff across the school day are aware of the details when paracetamol has been administered to individual students. Parent and carers are informed similarly.

5. Parents & Carers

Parents and Carers are very much active partners in ensuring that their youngsters receive the correct medication regime. As such, the following applies to all boarding students and that good practice described below which applies to day students: -

- Parents and carers preferably arrange for us to receive individual student's medication. Medication should be sent into school in the original packaging in a sealed and secure package which will only be opened by a member of staff. Where possible medication should be handed to the adult who transports the student to and from school, who then should handover the medication to a member of staff when

they arrive at school. The relevant stock update form will be completed promptly.

- Students refusing to take their prescribed medication may be sent home after consultation with parent / guardian and or their prescribing consultant; as we may not be able to ensure their continued safety in such circumstances.

6. Secure storage

For medicines that need to be kept cooler than room temperature, a lockable fridge is available in the First Aid Room for their storage. A temperature record chart will be maintained for this fridge. The key will be with the school nurse, Learning Directors and authorised personnel.

7. Self medication where appropriate

More mature students will be encouraged to take responsibility for administering their own medicines, where this does not conflict with legislative obligations. In such circumstances, this action will be written in each youngster's Individual Education Plan and will feature precisely which medicines will be self-administered, when and how the situation will be monitored and the response in cases where youngsters fail to meet expectations.

8. Risk Assessment

All students have a "risk assessment" which includes any allergy they may have. Staff will be mindful of this information in the administration of home remedies.

9. Safeguarding

Safeguarding students and managing errors:

- Side effects
Staff are trained to be aware of possible side effects and who to contact for advice should they suspect that a student is suffering from this.
- Errors can include:
Failure to give a student the prescribed medication at the prescribed time
Omitting a student's medication completely
Administering the wrong dosage of medication to the student
Administering the wrong medication to the student

Errors are dealt with according to the following procedure:

First error – the members of staff concerned will be seen by the Nurse, and Deputy Principal of boarding, the error will be discussed and any uncertainties on policy clarified.

Second error – the member of staff will undergo further medication training, to include all areas of medication administration. The Nurse and Deputy Principal will then come in and do a medication round with the staff involved to ensure policy is correct.

Third error – the members of staff involved will be removed from the medication rota for three months during which time they will undergo further training as detailed above. When the Nurse and Deputy Principal

are satisfied that the member of staff is competent, they can again administer medication.

All errors will be reported to the Nurse and Deputy Principal and recorded as an incident and on the student's personal medical database.

Persons with particular responsibilities

- School Nurse
- Authorised personnel
- Learning Directors

Other Participants & Stakeholders

Boots Chemist as noted on the front page. Specialist medical agencies (mostly CAMHS) prescribing medication for some students with ADHD and mood disorders.

Monitoring & Evaluation

The system will be monitored through boarding meetings, liaison with the School Nurse and the Health & Safety Committee

Appendix 1 Protocol for the Administration of Home Remedies

Medicine	When to Administer	Dosage <i>Note Age Implication with adults over 12 years</i>	Time before GP Referral or Contact
Paracetamol	To treat pain and or high temperature	Below 12yrs 500mg every 4-6 hours not exceeding 4 tablets in 24 hours 12-16yrs 500-750 mg every 4-6 hours, not exceeding 3g in 24 hours Over 16 yrs, 500mg-1g every 4-6 hours not exceeding 4g in 24 hours	Two days
Lemon Glycerine and Honey Pastilles or Strepsils	To treat sore throats	Suck one – dissolve slowly in mouth. No more than 12 in 24 hours	Two days
Lemon Glycerine and Honey Syrup	To treat coughs	1 to 2 5ml spoon 3 to 4 times a day	Two days
Antihistamine	To treat symptoms of Hay Fever or bites and stings	As directed	Two days
Gaviscon	Relief of heartburn and acid indigestion	6 – 12 yrs: 1 to 2 five ml spoon once when needed Over 12 yrs: 2 to 4 five ml spoon	Two weeks

Appendix 2

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINES

THE FIVE RIGHTS

1. The right drug
 2. At the right dose
 3. To the right person
 4. At the right time
 5. By the right route
- When administering medicines, check that the medicine label matches the medicine on the MAR
 - Check that the right dose is given
 - Make sure medicine is given to the right person. (Photo record next to MAR)
 - Check exact time medicine is given and record
 - Ensure medicine is given in accordance with instruction
 - Students should be given medication in privacy and a drink should be provided
 - Medicine should only be dispensed from original container

MEDICINE ADMINISTRATION RECORD (MAR)

- MAR is a legal document.
- Use full initial signature and keep a list of signatories.
- Fill in MAR immediately after medicine is administered.
- Don't alter entries, if a mistake is made cross through, initial error and write again.
- Write entries clearly copying label on container, not using abbreviations.
- Specify times for medicines to be taken
- Get colleague to check and initial this information.
- Completed MARs to be kept in pupil files for at least 4 years. (15 years)

CLASSIFICATION OF MEDICINES

A medicine is used for prevention or treatment of disease

General sales list GLS

Pharmacy only (P) – Needs pharmacist present

Prescription only medication (POM) – Prescribed by doctor

Controlled drugs (POM CD) – Not always marked – Habit forming – Addictive

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

No medical treatment can be given to any person without his/her consent.

Medicines must be given in accordance with doctor's instructions. Doses should not be varied without doctor's consent.

Medicines should only be taken by the person they are prescribed for.

Records must be kept detailing administration of medicines, all medicines received in school and all medicines sent home.

RECEIPT OF MEDICINES

Receipt of medicines should be registered immediately in the Medication Administration Record (MAR)

Medication that needs to be sent home should also be given to parent/carer or responsible adult e.g. taxi drivers, in a sealed envelope, stating contents.

DRUG RETURNS

Staff should not dispose of medicines. Parents are responsible for ensuring that medication no longer required/expired is returned to a pharmacy for safe disposal. If this is not possible they should be taken to a local pharmacy.

A record must be kept of returned medication, who and where it is returned to; name of student; medication, quantity, date returned and the record sheet signed. If medication is taken to a local pharmacy then the Pharmacist's signature is required.

OVER THE COUNTER MEDICINES

Over the counter medicines are recorded in a separate file.

We have a duty of care to our students and a list of medicines has been compiled on advice from local pharmacists. This list has been approved for use by Parents/Carers.

Parents/Carers or boarding staff should be informed of medicines given to students during the school day.

Medication given in boarding should be recorded and information relayed at change of shift.