



Administering Medication Policy

Reviewed at FGB
January 2017

Date Approved	Next Review Date	Staff Member Responsible	Responsible Governor
30/1/17	January 2018	Mrs. J. Connery	Mrs. J.Namusisi-Riley

Designated Member of staff: Mrs Antoniou, Miss Morrison & Mrs Humpage

Mission Statement

Corpus Christi school exists to serve the Catholic communities of Brixton Hill and its neighbouring parishes.

We are here to educate our children to the highest possible standard in a community which has the Gospel values, traditions and beliefs of the Catholic Faith at the centre of its ethos.

In all aspects of the school, Christian values will be upheld, with an emphasis on respect, helpfulness, unselfishness and co-operation.

INTRODUCTION

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 December 2015)

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 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.

AIMS

- 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 GOVERNING BODY

The Governing Body has:

- appointed a member of staff to be responsible for Health and Safety;
- delegated powers and responsibilities to the Headteacher to ensure all school personnel and stakeholders are aware of and comply with this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring that the school complies with all equalities legislation;
- nominated a designated Equalities governor to ensure that appropriate action will be taken to deal with all prejudice related incidents or incidents which are a breach of this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring funding is in place to support this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring this policy and all policies are maintained and updated regularly;
- responsibility for ensuring all policies are made available to parents;

- responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy.

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;
- work closely with the link governor;
- 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 and governors;
- annually report to the Governing Body on the success and development of this policy.

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 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.

MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATION

There are an increasing number of children attending Corpus Christi School with medical conditions. Schools, acting in loco parentis, have a duty to take reasonable care of children which includes the possibility of having to administer medicines and/or prescribed medication.

The school will make every effort to safeguard the health and safety of those pupils who may be more at risk than their peers due to existing medical conditions. A designate member of staff is responsible for 1st Aid issues.

Children with medical conditions requiring medication, such as Epi Pens or inhalers, and other vulnerable children such as those children with sickle cell, have their photo displayed in 1st Aid areas and in the staff work room.

When medicines are to be administered in school it is essential that safe procedures are established which are acceptable to appropriate school staff involved. It is essential that clear instructions are given on the medication to be administered to their child.

- ✓ Parents should always complete a "Request for a school to administer medication" form available from the school office giving information including the child's name and class, clear instructions on the dose, time to be taken, taken before or after a meal and for what period.
- ✓ Medication must be in its original packaging including the prescriber's instructions. Only the prescribed dose will be administered.
- ✓ The form should be signed by the parent or guardian and retained in the school office for reference by staff involved.

LABELLED CONTAINER/FORM

- Pupil's name
- Contact details of parent/carer
- Contact details of GP
- Name of medication
- Prescribed dosage
- Frequency of dosage
- Date(s) of dispensing
- Storage requirements
- Expiry date
- Possible side effects

- ✓ In cases where the child's medical needs may be greater than those of their peers, the Headteacher may request that an individual Healthcare Plan be prepared if applicable by the school nurse. In such cases, consultations on the Plan will include the school, health service practitioners (i.e. school nurse) and the parents/guardians. This will also clarify the extent of responsibility taken by the school. Procedures should be in place before the child starts a new term. Where transition arrangements are needed, arrangements should be in place within two weeks.
- ✓ The Headteacher will be responsible for managing the administration of medicines and drugs with the agreement of named members of staff. Staff should be able to act safely and promptly in an emergency situation, as well as with the routine administration of medicines.
- ✓ Members of staff will be asked to volunteer to be involved in the administration of medication. Only those members of staff who have current First Aid qualifications will be required to act in an emergency. Other members of staff who are willing to dispense medicines to pupils i.e. Teaching Assistants, Class Teacher, Office staff, should be advised of the correct procedure for each pupil. The designated lead member of staff for 1st Aid will liaise with parents/carer
- ✓ It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to ensure that new members of staff receive appropriate training.

Parents and staff should be kept informed of the school's arrangements for the administration of medicines and drugs and will be informed of any changes in these procedures. A record should be kept of all the medicines and drugs administered by the members of staff responsible i.e. in the child's homework diary and in the Medication Record Book. All medication administered must be recorded and witnessed by another member of staff.

MEMBERS OF STAFF AVAILABLE FOR ADMINISTERING MEDICINES AND DRUGS:

**Members of staff available for first aid in an emergency: Check 1st aid points for list of staff.
Designated member of staff: Mrs Rodriguez
Senior 1st Aiders: Mrs Humpage and Miss Morrison**

Members of staff available to administer emergency medication:

Mrs Connery, Mr Coyle, Mrs Powell, Mrs Cole, Mrs Smart, Mr Kelleher, Mrs Duffy, Mrs Humpage, Mrs Tatton, Miss Moore, Miss Morrison and Mr Calvey (risk assessments).

We ensure that staff who administer medication:

- ✓ Are trained in 1st aid
- ✓ Will attend periodic refresher training
- ✓ Follow school nursing service updated advice on administering medication
- ✓ Are familiar with the Individual Health Care Plans of pupils
- ✓ Understand safe use and storage of medications
- ✓ Know what to do in an emergency
- ✓ Are aware that allergy management strategies are incorporated into risk assessments for school events, educational visits and sporting events

ADVICE ON MEDICATION

Children recovering from a short-term illness/infection who are clearly unwell should not be in school and the Headteacher can request that parents or carers keep the pupil at home if necessary. If the parent or carer requests that the school administer prescribed medication, the Headteacher will allow this on the condition that the school's Permission to Dispense Medication Form is completed and signed by the parent. If the instructions have not been given in writing, it will not be possible for the school to accept responsibility for administering the medication.

In the case of chronic illness or disability, i.e. asthma, diabetes, syndromes such as ADHD etc. pupils may need to take prescribed drugs or medicines on a regular basis during school hours in order to lead a normal life within a mainstream school setting. Only those members of staff already named should administer the medication and a record kept. Staff will not under any circumstances administer drugs by injection and parents would be expected to attend to the pupil in school hours in such cases.

SCHOOL TRIPS

It is the part of the Inclusion Policy of the school that all pupils should be encouraged to take part in school trips wherever safety permits. It may be that the school would need to take additional safety measures for outdoor visits and staff supervising outings must be aware of any medical needs of such pupils and of the relevant emergency procedures. An additional adult (or the particular parent) may need to accompany visits where a difficult situation might arise.

TAKING MEDICATION ON SCHOOL TRIPS

It may be necessary to take medication for pupils on a school trip, i.e. Epipen, Inhalers or Epilepsy emergency medication. This medication must be logged in and out of school. It may also be necessary to take copies of any relevant care plans in case of emergency. Emergency medication must be taken on all trips, even where a trained member of staff is not present. In this case medication should be given to the paramedics to administer when necessary. A separate medication form needs to be completed for school journeys, as prescriptions may have altered.

INHALERS FOR ASTHMA

The Headteacher has agreed that, when appropriate, pupils in Key Stage 2 should assume responsibility for their own inhalers. It is the responsibility of the parent to ensure that the inhalers are renewed and that the medication has not exceeded its expiry date. All inhalers should be collected at the end of the school year.

In the case of pupils in Early Years and Key Stage 1 the school can supervise the child using the inhaler. The inhaler should be given to the class teacher or kept in the School office and written instructions given. As before, all inhalers should be regularly renewed and collected at the end of the school year. They must be available for all sporting activities, including extra curricular clubs.

ANTIBIOTICS

Pupils who are prescribed antibiotics can often recover very quickly and may well be fit enough to return to school, but it may also be essential that the full course of medication should be completed. In this case, the Headteacher is willing for named staff to administer the antibiotics supplied by the parent or carer. A Permission to Dispense form should always be completed giving full instructions for administration of the medicine. It is the responsibility of the parent to ensure that the medication is collected each day and is not out of date. Antibiotics should be stored in a small secure fridge.

DIABETES

The school will monitor pupils with diabetes in accordance with their care plan, created by the school and agreed by a parent. Sharps boxes should always be used for the disposal of needles. Sharp boxes can be obtained by parents / carers from the child's GP or paediatrician and returned to the parents/carers when full for replacement.

MAINTENANCE OF DRUGS

A child may be on daily medication for a medical condition that requires a dose during the school day. As with all other medicines a form should be completed giving clear instructions to staff at the school. A record of all doses administered will be kept.

In cases of eczema or skin conditions it will be expected that the child will be able to use the cream/lotion on their own.

NUT ALLERGIES/ANAPHYLAXIS PROCEDURES

Medication for the treatment of nut allergies will be kept in easily identifiable containers in the school office or individual classrooms. Each container should be clearly labelled with the

child's name and class. An annual review to check expiry dates will be carried out by the school nurse but it is the parental/carers responsibility to check expiry dates and provide 2 Epi-Pens from their child's GP.

In the case of unusual prescribed medicines, i.e. use of an EpiPen, proper training will be provided by the Child Health and parents will need to complete a medication form accepting responsibility. The school will administer the Epi-Pen in an emergency situation, as they will be acting in the best interest of the child.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

In the case of emergency, the school will call an ambulance and contact the parents. When conditions require immediate emergency treatment, trained staff may volunteer to administer medication or emergency procedures such as resuscitation. Staff should never take children to hospital in their own car - it is safer to call an ambulance. A member of staff should always accompany a child taken to hospital by ambulance and should stay until the parent/carer arrives.

In all cases, administration of medication and/or treatment of a pupil will be at the discretion of the Headteacher and Governors of the school. However, ultimate responsibility remains with the parents/carers.

HYGIENE AND INFECTION CONTROL

All staff should be familiar with normal precautions for avoiding infection and follow basic hygiene procedures. Staff should have access to protective disposable gloves and take care when dealing with blood or other bodily fluids and disposing of dressings or equipment.

STORAGE OF MEDICATION

All medication must be stored in the designated medication areas i.e. the secure medication cupboard in the school office or the office fridge (depending on prescriber's instructions.) EpiPens and Inhalers should be readily available and not locked away (on top of medication cupboard in school office.) These will be stored in the orange Emergency Rucksacks located in each class. The rucksack is to be taken out when there is an emergency evacuation. Some children have EpiPen/Inhalers in their classrooms in accordance with the recommendation of their care plan.

DISPOSAL OF MEDICINES

Staff should not dispose of medicines. Parents are responsible for ensuring that date expired medicines are returned to a Pharmacy for safe disposal. Where old medication containers are dispensed, this take place in the sanitary bins in the ladies cloakrooms.

SUMMARY OF PROCEDURE TO DISPENSE MEDICATION

- Permission to dispense medication form must be completed by the parent / carer.
- Medicine must be in original packaging clearly marked with name of child, class and dose to be administered.
- Prescribed dose will not be exceeded without written permission from a medical professional. Any changes to the dose will need to be received by a medical professional in writing
- All medication given must be recorded and witnessed in Medication Record book. Appropriate staff need to be aware of a child's medical needs.
- It will be the parent / carers responsibility to collect medication at the end of each school day where necessary.
- Medication being taken out of school on trips or visits must be logged in and out with the school office and be the responsibility of a member of staff at all times. A medical form will be completed for each trip.

MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE POLICY

The practical application of this policy will be reviewed annually or when the need arises by the coordinator, the Headteacher and the nominated governor.

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