



AMBLECOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Administration of Medicines Policy

Introduction

Parents have the prime responsibility for ensuring a child's health and for deciding whether they are fit to attend school. Parents should also provide all necessary information about their child's medical needs to the school.

DfE April 2014 – Supporting Pupils at school with Medical Conditions.

Key Points are:

- Pupils at school with medical conditions should be properly supported as that they can have full access to education, including school trips and physical Education.
- Governing bodies must ensure that arrangements are in place in schools to support pupils at school with medical conditions.
- Governing Bodies should ensure that school leaders consult health and social care professionals, pupils and parents to ensure that the needs of children with medical conditions are effectively supported.

This policy may be superseded by a child's EHC plan or Individual Care Plan or may be used in conjunction with them.

Staff Duties

School staff have no legal obligation to administer medicines to pupils nor supervise them while they take medicine, unless contracted to do so. Staff may volunteer to assist in the administration of medicines with first aid training and guidance.

As a school, we have a duty to plan how administering medicines can be accommodated in school and on educational visits to allow children who have medical needs to attend.

Process for the Administration of Medicines in School – short term medical needs

Medicines should normally be administered at home and only taken into school when absolutely necessary (where it would be detrimental to the child's health if the medicine were not taken during the school day).

The school will only accept:

- Medicines prescribed by a medical practitioner
- Medicines in their original container
- Containers with labelling identifying the child by name and with original instructions for administration

(For use of inhalers see Asthma Policy)

The school will not accept or administer:

- Medicines that are not prescribed by a medical practitioner
- Piriton
- Paracetamol eg Calpol

On accepting medication, the parent must sign a form disclosing all details and giving permission for the medication to be administered by an adult in school from the child's class if possible, or a staff volunteer in the case of educational visits.

The medicine must be kept in a locked cupboard (except where storage in a fridge is required) and only accessed by supervising adults, or with the permission of the Headteacher.

When administering, the supervising adult must complete a record (appendix a) showing the date and time and details/dosage of the medication.

In the case of the child being allowed to administer their own medication, this must again be added to the record and signed by a supervising adult.

Under no circumstances should a parent send a child to school with any medicines, eg throat sweets/tablets, without informing the school. These could cause a hazard to the child or to another child if found and swallowed.

Parents are welcome to come into school to administer medicines themselves that the school refuse to administer.

Process for the Administration of Medicines in School – long term medical needs

Where a child has long term medical needs, a care plan must be written with the assistance of the school nurse and agreed by the parent/guardian of the named child. This may result in an individual risk assessment also being required. The care plan must be followed and reviewed at least annually.

It is the parent's responsibility to inform the school of any changes to the child's condition that may require the details of the care plan altered.

The Head teacher must ensure that named staff are trained to administer or give the level of care required by the details of the care plan.

As a school, we try to ensure that we have sufficient information about the medical condition of any child with long-term medical needs and will request meetings with parents and recognised medical practitioners regularly to provide the correct level of training. Training should be specific to the individual child concerned.

There will also be regular training for all staff on more generalised needs eg asthma awareness and epi-pen training when required for individual pupils.

Process for the Administration of Medicines during residential visits and trips – all medical needs.

For the purpose of residential visits and trips, there will be a named person with responsibility for the administration of all medicines including piriton, paracetamol, calpol and travel sickness tablets and care of children as above. Parents will be asked to complete a form and may be required to meet with the named staff to ensure that staff are aware of all medical requirements.

In the case of higher levels of care eg intimate care, the named member of staff will also meet with the school nurse, or other recognised medical advisor to ensure that they are trained in dealing with the level of care required.

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