



## OASIS ACADEMY HARPUR MOUNT SCHOOL

### ADMINISTERING MEDICINES POLICY

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#### 1. AIMS OF THIS POLICY STATEMENT

- To support regular attendance of all pupils.
- To ensure staff understand their roles and responsibilities in administering medicines.
- To ensure parents understand their responsibilities in respect of their children's medical needs.
- To ensure medicines are stored and administered safely.

Where children are unwell and not fit to be in school, and where they are still suffering from an infection which may be passed to others, children should remain at home to be cared for and looked after by parent / carer. The school is committed to ensuring that children may return to school as soon as possible after an illness, (subject to the health and safety of the school community) and that children with chronic health needs are supported at school. This policy statement sets out clearly a sound basis for ensuring that children with medical needs receive proper care and support in school.

#### 2. PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES

- Medicines should only be brought to school when essential (where it would be detrimental to the child's health if the medicine were not administered during the school day).
- All medicines should be taken directly to the school office by a responsible adult.
- Medicines will only be accepted in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and with the prescriber's instructions for administration.
- The medicine should be clearly marked with the child's name and class number.
- The appropriate dosage spoon should be included with all medicines sent to school.
- Any medicine administered will be recorded by the staff member in the medicine book which is kept in the school office.

- Medicines will only be administered in school on completion of the appropriate information by a parent or carer.

### 3. NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES

- We will also administer non-prescription medicines if necessary. They must also be handed in at the office by a responsible adult and they will not be given to children without prior written permission from parents as above in the medicine book which is kept in the office.
- They should be clearly marked with the child's name and class number.
- Children must not carry medicines themselves for self administration during the day. The medicine must be collected from the office and taken under the supervision of an adult who is a first aider.
- Any non-prescription medicine administered will also be recorded in the medicine book in the school office.
- We will not give paracetamol or ibuprofen routinely as their primary use is to control raised temperature for which a child should be at home.
- Cough sweets are allowed in school and are to be given at break-times in the office.

### 4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCHOOL STAFF

- Staff at Oasis Academy Harpur Mount are expected to do what is reasonable and practical to support the inclusion of all pupils. This will include administering medicines or supervising children in self administration. However, as they have no legal or contractual duty, staff may be asked, but cannot be directed, to do so.
- All medicines are stored securely in the first aid cabinet with access only for staff.
- Asthma inhalers are to be kept in the classroom so that they are accessible for children and must be taken when children go swimming or trips.
- Staff must complete the 'Medication Book' kept in the office each time medicine is administered within school time.
- Relevant staff are to be trained on how to administer insulin and are signed off by the parent / carer. (Jeanette Jackson, Michelle Dale).

### 5. PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITY

- In most cases, parents will administer medicines to their children themselves out of school hours, but where this is not possible, parents of children in need of medication must ensure that the school is accurately advised about the medication, its usage and administration. Parents must complete and sign the medicine book kept in the office before a medicine can be administered by staff.
- Primary school children may be able to manage their own medication, under adult, supervision but again, only with parental agreement given through the appropriate procedure as above.
- Parents are responsible for notifying the school if there is a change in circumstances e.g. if a child is deemed to be no longer asthmatic.

## 6. LONG-TERM AND COMPLEX NEEDS

Where a child has significant or complex health needs parents should give full details on entry to school or as the child first develops a medical need. Where appropriate, a health care plan may be put in place involving the parents and relevant health care professionals.

## 7. SAFE STORAGE OF MEDICINES.

The school is responsible for ensuring that all medicines are stored safely.

- Medicines should be stored in the supplied container, clearly marked with the child's name, dose and frequency of administration.
- Medicines are stored in the school office under adult supervision.
- Where medicines need to be refrigerated they will be kept in the staffroom fridge.

## 8. MANAGING MEDICINES ON SCHOOL TRIPS

On school visits the teacher is responsible for taking the class medicine chest e.g. asthma pump, eczema cream with them. They may agree to take temporary responsibility for administering medicine e.g. antibiotics following the above procedure. They must also take a child's care plan if necessary. There is an emergency asthma pack but it is necessary to obtain parent permission prior to administration.