



GUIDELINES FOR THE SUPERVISION OF MEDICATION

These guidelines support DECD (Department for Education and Child Development) policy that the responsibility of school staff is limited to supervision and does not extend to administering student medication.

SUPERVISION/MANAGEMENT OF STUDENTS' PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION

All medication remains the property of the patient and for students under the age of medical consent (usually sixteen) the medication is considered the property of the parent/guardian.

Regulations require that administration of prescription drugs be carried out in accordance with the instructions of the prescribing practitioner as part of the Student Medication Health Care Plan.

A request to doctors/health professional to wherever possible, prescribe the medication to be taken outside of school hours and via the simplest and safest method.

Staff may supervise metered dose inhaled medication and oral medication only.

ADHD medication, may be presented to the school with a weekly basis.

The regulations state that the instructions must include:

- Name of the student
- Name of the drug
- Form of the drug (liquid, tablet, capsule, inhalant)
- Strength of the drug
- Method and time for drug administration
- Medication purchased from the chemist must be presented to the front office in a decanter bottle labelled with the same information on the original bottle. A single dose of medication must be measured by the parent/caregiver at home and presented to the front office staff for the student to self administer on a daily basis.
- We are not permitted to measure medication.

MONITORING THE EFFECT OF MEDICATION

DECD/school staff cannot be expected to monitor the effects of medication. If an unexpected response is observed staff will enact first aid emergency procedures.

Staff may report on observed behaviour. It is not the responsibility of staff to interpret behaviour in relation to a medical condition.

ANTIBIOTICS

Advice from pharmacists is that when antibiotics are to be taken three times a day they may be taken before school, after school and before bedtime and usually do not need to be taken at school.

STORAGE OF MEDICATION

To minimise the quantity of medication at school, medication needs to be delivered to the front office on a daily basis and will be stored in a secure cupboard.

ASTHMA MEDICATION

Students may carry their own asthma medication if agreed to by their doctor, parents and teacher. An Asthma Care Plan completed by the students Doctor must be presented to the front office. The school requires documentation from the doctor that the student is able to manage their own medication.