



# The federation of Bedenham and Holbrook and Holbrook Primary Schools



## administration of medicines policy

Jan 2019

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### **Policy Statement**

Bedenham and Holbrook Primary Schools will undertake to ensure compliance with the relevant legislation and guidance in *Health Guidance for Schools* with regard to procedures for supporting children with medical requirements, including managing medicines. Responsibility for all administration of medicines at Bedenham and Holbrook Primary Schools is held by The Executive Headteacher who is the responsible manager.

It is our policy to ensure that all medical information will be treated confidentially by the responsible manager and staff. All administration of medicines is arranged and managed in accordance with the *Health Guidance for Schools* document. All staff have a duty of care to follow and co-operate with the requirements of this policy.

### **Aims & Objectives**

Our administration of medicine requirements will be achieved by:

- Establishing principles for safe practice in the management and administration of:
  - Prescribed medicines
  - Non-prescribed medicines
  - Maintenance drugs
  - Emergency medicine
- Providing clear guidance to all staff on the administration of medicines
- Ensuring that there are sufficient numbers of appropriately trained staff to manage and administer medicines
- Ensuring that there are suitable and sufficient facilities and equipment available to aid the safe management and administration of medicines
- Ensuring the above provisions are clear and shared with all who may require them
- Ensuring the policy is reviewed periodically or following any significant change which may affect the management or administration of medicines

### **Administration**

The administration of medicines is the overall responsibility of the parents. The Head of School is responsible for ensuring children are supported with their medical needs whilst on site and this may include managing medicines where appropriate and agreed with parents.

### **Routine Administration**

Prescribed medicines

- It is our policy to manage prescribed medicines (eg. antibiotics, inhalers, Ritalin ) where appropriate following consultation and agreement with and written consent from the parents
- It is our general policy not to take responsibility for the administration of non-prescribed medicines (eg. Calpol or cough mixtures provided by the parents) as this responsibility rests with the parents. An exception to this is during residential. Then staff may administer non-prescription medicines,

provided they have written consent from parents in advance and administration is in accordance with guidance provided in *Health Guidance for Schools* document.

- Children under 16 years old are never to be administered aspirin or medicines containing Ibuprofen unless prescribed by a doctor
- Responsibility for decision making about the administration of all non-prescribed medicines will always be at the discretion of the Head of School who may decide to administer under certain miscellaneous or exceptional circumstances

#### Maintenance drugs

- It is our policy to manage the administration of maintenance drugs (eg. Insulin) as appropriate following consultation and agreement with and written consent from the parents. On such occasions, a health care plan will be written for the child concerned.

### **Non-Routine Administration**

#### Emergency medicine

- It is our policy (where appropriate) to manage the administration of emergency medicines such as (for example):
  - Injections of adrenaline for acute allergic reactions
  - Injections of Glucagon for diabetic hypoglycaemia
  - Salbutamol inhaler for asthma attacks
- In all cases, professional training and guidance from a competent source will be received before commitment to such administration is accepted

### **Procedure for Administration**

When deciding upon the administration of medicine needs for children we will discuss this with the parents concerned and make reasonable decisions about the level of care required.

Any child required to have medicines will have an 'administration of medicines/treatment' consent form completed by the parent and kept on file.

If a child refuses to take medication the parents will be informed at the earliest available opportunity.

If a child reports that they have not received their prescribed medicines at home, the parents will be telephoned to request that they bring and administer the medicine at school, as soon as possible. It is our duty of care to keep a record of this if it becomes a regular occurrence; if this becomes a concern, we will report the non-administration of prescribed medication to Children's Services.

### **Contacting Emergency Services**

When a medical condition causes the child to become ill and/or requires emergency administration of medicines then an ambulance will be summoned at the earliest opportunity.

### **Medical Accommodation**

The First Aid Room will be used for medicine administration/ treatment purposes. The room is always available during school hours.

### **Training**

Where staff are required to carry out non-routine or more specialised administration of medicines or emergency treatment to children, appropriate professional training and guidance from a competent source will be sought before commitment to such administration is accepted.

A 'staff training record' sheet will be completed to document the level of training undertaken.

Such training will form part of the overall training plan and refresher training will be scheduled at appropriate intervals.

## **Storage**

The storage of medicines is the overall responsibility of the Head of School who will ensure that arrangements are in place to store medicines safely.

The storage of medicines will be undertaken in accordance with product instructions and in the original container in which the medicine was dispensed.

It is the responsibility of all staff to ensure that the received medicine container is clearly labelled with the name of the child, the name and dose of the medicine and the frequency of administration.

It is the responsibility of the parents to provide medicine that is in date. This should be agreed with the parents at the time of acceptance of on-site administration responsibilities.

## **Disposal**

It is not the Schools' responsibilities to dispose of medicines. It is the responsibility of the parents to ensure that all medicines no longer required including those which have date-expired are returned to a pharmacy for safe disposal.

Sharps disposal will be the responsibility of Mark Vernon at Bedenham and Matt Ward at Holbrook (Caretakers) who will transport used sharps in a sealed plastic container, to the Lennox centre and transfer them to their 'sharps disposal' box. The Lennox will dispose of the sharps box as necessary.

Signed by:



Heads of School....

Chair of Governors:



Date: 19th Jan 2015

Agreed at the Governing Body Meeting on: 02.12.13

Reviewed at resources and Finance Meeting 19.01.15 minutes ref: 10

Reviewed at Policy committee 07.01.19

Agreed at FGB 14.01.19