



MULLAVILLY PRIMARY SCHOOL
'Inspiring, Believing, Achieving'

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION POLICY

SEPTEMBER 2016

INTRODUCTION

The Board of Governors and staff of Mullavilly Primary school wish to ensure that pupils with medication needs receive appropriate care and support at school. The Principal will accept responsibility in principle for members of school staff giving or supervising pupils taking prescribed medication during the school day **where those members of staff have volunteered to do so.**

A partnership approach with close cooperation between the school, parents, health professionals and other agencies will provide a supportive environment for any pupils with medication needs to enable them to participate fully in school activities.

The administration of medicines is the responsibility of parents and those with parental responsibility. It must be noted that the dosage of **many medicines** can be arranged to permit medicine to be given to children **before or after school** - not during school- wherever possible.

PLEASE NOTE THAT PARENTS SHOULD KEEP THEIR CHILDREN AT HOME IF ACUTELY UNWELL OR INFECTIOUS.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Parents are responsible for providing the Principal with comprehensive information regarding the pupil's condition and medication.

Parents are responsible for:

- Making sure that their child is well enough to attend school. A child's own doctor is the person best able to advise whether the child is fit to be in school and it is for parents to seek and obtain such advice as necessary;
- Making the school aware that their child requires medication;
- Reaching agreement with the Principal on the school's role in helping with their child's medication;
- Providing the Principal with the original written medical evidence about their child's medical condition and treatment or special care needed at school;
- Providing the Principal with written instructions and making a written agreement. Details of the dose and when the medication is to be administered, are essential;
- Ensuring any changes in medication or condition are notified promptly;
- Providing sufficient medication and ensuring it is correctly labelled;
- Disposing of their child's unused medication; and giving written permission for the pupil to carry his/her own medication.
- Keeping their children at home if acutely unwell or infectious.

MEDICATION

- Prescribed medication will not be accepted in school without complete written and signed instructions from the parent. Any parents requiring the school to administer medicines to their child should complete the 'Consent Form for Administering Medication' at School form which can be obtained from the school office or is available to download from the school website.
- Staff will not give a non prescribed medicine to a child unless there is specific prior written permission from the parents.
- Only reasonable quantities of medication should be supplied to the school (for example, a maximum of four weeks supply at any one time).
- Where the pupil travels on school transport with an escort, **parents should** ensure the escort has **written instructions** relating to any medication sent with the pupil, including medication for administration during respite care.

LABELLING OF MEDICATION

Each item of medication must be delivered to the Principal or Office Staff by the child's parent, in a secure and labelled container as originally dispensed. Each item of medication must be clearly labelled with the following information:

- ✓ Pupil's Name
- ✓ Name of Medication
- ✓ Dosage
- ✓ Frequency of administration
- ✓ Date of dispensing
- ✓ Storage requirements (if important)
- ✓ Expiry date

The school will not accept items of medication in unlabelled containers.

STORAGE OF MEDICINES

All prescription medicines will be stored in the First Aid Room (Or the fridge in staffroom if appropriate) with the appropriate form completed and filed in the 'Record of Medicines Administered to Children' file.

RECORDS

- All Consent forms for administering medication in school will be stored in the 'Record of Medicines Administered' file.
- Every time a child takes medicine in school (including inhalers) a green Mullavilly Primary School Administration of medicine form will be completed by relevant staff member filling in details of medicine and dosage given at what time. A copy will be retained by the school and a copy sent home with child.

REFUSAL TO TAKE MEDICATION

If children refuse to take medicines, staff will not force them to do so (This does not apply to use of EPI Pen or Glycogen hypo kits), and will inform the parents of the refusal, as a matter of urgency, on the same day. If a refusal to take medicines results in an emergency, the school's emergency procedures will be followed.

CHANGE IN MEDICATION

- It is the responsibility of parents to notify the school in writing if the pupil's need for medication has ceased.
- It is the parents' responsibility to renew the medication when supplies are running low and to ensure that the medication supplied is within its expiry date.
- The school will not make changes to dosages on parental instructions, only those prescribed by doctor in writing.

DISPOSAL OF MEDICATION

School staff will not dispose of medicines. Medicines, which are in use and in date, should be collected by the parent at the end of term. Date of expired medicines or those no longer required for treatment will be returned immediately to the parent for transfer to a community pharmacist for safe disposal.

LONG TERM MEDICATION

- For each pupil with long term or complex medication needs, the Principal will ensure that a Medication Plan and Protocol is drawn up, in conjunction with the appropriate health professionals.
- Where it is appropriate to do so, pupils will be encouraged to administer their own medication, if necessary, under staff supervision. Parents will be asked to confirm in writing if they wish their child to carry their medication with them in school.

STAFF TRAINING

- Staff who volunteer to assist in the administration of medication will receive appropriate training / guidance through arrangements made with the School Health Service. E.g. training by diabetic nurse.
- Staff will be offered the chance to go on the Centralised Health Awareness training every 2 years.
- Designated First Aiders will attend all refresher courses necessary.

EDUCATIONAL TRIPS

The school will make every effort to continue the administration of medication to a pupil whilst on trips away from the school premises, even if additional arrangements might be required. However, there may be occasions when it may not be possible to include a pupil on a school trip if appropriate supervision cannot be guaranteed.

All staff will be made aware of the procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency.



TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION



CONSENT FORM FOR ADMINISTERING MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Name of Pupil: _____

Class: _____

Teacher: _____

I request permission for my son/daughter to be given the following medication during school hours by the class teacher or a designated member of staff.

Medication: _____

Dosage: _____

When taken: _____

Doctor's name: _____

Doctor's telephone number: _____

I understand that whilst all best efforts will be made, staff of Mullavilly Primary School accept no responsibility whatsoever for omitting to administer this medicine or administering the medicine at a time different from that specified above.

Signed (Parent/Guardian): _____

Date: _____

Please note that this form relates to temporary administration of medication. Any child requiring ongoing medication requires a personal medical care plan which will be discussed and agreed with the Principal and signed by both parties.

