**Administration of Medication**

**Policy**

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**Ballykeel Primary School and Nursery Unit**

Sept 2021





**BALLYKEEL PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY UNIT POLICY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION**

The Board of Governors and staff of Ballykeel Primary School and Nursery Unit, Ballymena, wish to ensure that pupils with medication needs receive appropriate care and support at school. While pupils should not be sent to school when they are acutely unwell or infectious**,** we realise that sometimes a doctor may advise pupils to attend school while still needing to take medication. As the responsibility for the administration of medicine lies with the parents, we ask that parents regulate the time for administering medicines so as to avoid the school day if possible.

The most common ailments suffered by pupils are asthma, epilepsy and diabetes. Anaphylaxis and extreme allergic reactions to certain foods, such as nuts, fish and dairy products, is on the increase. Staff are therefore being increasingly called to administer medication to pupils. The Principal will accept responsibility in principle for members of the school giving or supervising pupils taking prescribed medication during the school day **where those members of staff have volunteered to do so.**  (*Teachers have the right not to administer medication and may only agree to observe the child while taking medication in their presence*).

* 1. Parents are responsible for providing the Principal with comprehensive information regarding the pupil’s condition and medication.
  2. Prescribed medication will not be accepted in school without complete written and signed instructions from the parent. (AM2/AM3)
  3. Staff will not give a non-prescribed medicine to a child.
  4. Only reasonable quantities of medication should be supplied to the school (for example, a maximum of four weeks supply at any one time).
  5. 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.
  6. Each item of medication must be delivered to the Principal or Authorised Person, in normal circumstances by the 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.**

* 1. Medication will be kept in a secure place, out of the reach of pupils. Unless otherwise indicated all medication to be administered in school will be kept in a locked cabinet.
  2. The school will keep records, which they will have available for parents.
  3. If children refuse to take medicines, staff will not force them to do so, 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.
  4. It is the responsibility of parents to notify the school in writing if the pupil’s need for medication has ceased.
  5. 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.
  6. The school will not make changes to dosages on parental instructions.
  7. 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 each term. Date 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.
  8. For each pupil with long term or complex medication needs, the Principal will ensure that medication Plan and Protocol is drawn up, in conjunction with the appropriate health professionals.
  9. 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.
  10. Staff who volunteer to assist in the administration of medication will, if necessary, receive appropriate training/guidance through arrangements made with the School Health Service. A sufficient number of staff are trained in order to cover absences and training is recorded and monitored by the Principal and Head of 1st Aid on TEAMS.
  11. Two members of staff are always present when administering medication which could expose staff to allegations of assault or sexual abuse
  12. First aiders and teachers responsible for children taking medication keep a record of symptoms to be aware of, medication and emergency contact numbers in a secure location.
  13. 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.
  14. All staff are aware of the procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency. (AM4)

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2021

**FORM AM2**

**NAME OF SCHOOL: Ballykeel Primary School and Nursery Unit**

**REQUEST FOR A SCHOOL TO ADMINISTER MEDICATION**

The school will not give your child medicine unless you complete and sign this form, and the Principal has agreed that school staff can administer the medicine

**Details of Pupil**

Surname \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Forename(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ M F

Class \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Condition or illness \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Medication**

*Parents must ensure that in date properly labelled medication is supplied.*

Name/Type of Medication (as described on the container)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date dispensed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Full Directions for use:**

Dosage and method

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**NB Dosage can only be changed on a Doctor’s instructions**

Timing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Special precautions \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are there any side effects that the School needs to know about?

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Self‑Administration Yes/No (delete as appropriate)

**Procedures to take in an Emergency**

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**Contact Details**

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone No (home/mobile) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(work) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Pupil \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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I understand that I must deliver the medicine personally to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (agreed member of staff) and accept that this is a service, which the school is not obliged to undertake. I understand that I must notify the school of any changes in writing.

**Signature(s)** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Agreement of Principal**

I agree that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name of child) will receive \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (quantity and name of medicine) every day at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (time(s) medicine to be administered eg lunchtime or afternoon break).

This child will be given/supervised whilst he/she takes their medication by

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name of staff member)

This arrangement will continue until \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (either end date of course of medicine or until instructed by parents)

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(**The Principal/authorised member of staff)**

**The original should be retained on the school file and a copy sent to the parents to confirm the school’s agreement to administer medication to the named pupil.**

**FORM AM3**

**NAME OF SCHOOL: Ballykeel Primary School and Nursery Unit**

**REQUEST FOR PUPIL TO CARRY HIS/HER MEDICATION**

This form must be completed by parents/carers

## Details of Pupil

Surname \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Forenames(s)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_\_/ \_\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Condition or illness \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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## Medication Parents must ensure that in date properly labelled medication is supplied.

Name of Medicine

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Procedures to be taken in an emergency

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## Contact Details

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: (home/mobile) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(work) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**I would like my child to keep his/her medication on him/her for use as necessary**

**Signed**  \_ **Date**  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Relationship to child** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Agreement of Principal**

I agree that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name of child) will be allowed to carry and self‑administer his/her medication whilst in school and that this arrangement will continue until \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(either end date of course of medication or until instructed by parents)

**Signed Date**

**The Principal/authorised member of staff**

**The original should be retained on the school file and a copy sent to the parents to confirm the school’s agreement to the named pupil carrying his/her own medication**

**AM4**

**Emergency procedures:**

Follow procedures outlined in individual care plan or our *Policy for First Aid and Guidelines for Staff for Initial Response to Sickness & Accidents in the Classroom / Playground*

If an ambulance is required:

Dial 999, ask for ambulance and be ready with the following information.

1. School telephone number
2. School name, address and postcode
3. Give exact location in the school (insert brief description)
4. Give your name
5. Give brief description of pupil’s symptoms
6. Inform Ambulance Control of the best entrance and state that the crew will be met and taken to