



St. Bernadette's Primary School

MEDICATION POLICY

Rationale:

Many students attending school need medication to control a health condition. It is necessary that teachers (as part of their duty of care) assist students, when required to take their medication. The school will ensure the students privacy and confidentiality and will exercise sensitivity towards this issue to avoid any stigmatisation.

St Bernadette's has an administration of medication procedure which outlines the school's processes and protocols regarding the management of prescribed and non-prescribed medication to students at this school.

The student's parent/carer may wish to supply medication to be administered at the school. To minimise the quantity of medication held at the school, it should be considered if the medication can be taken outside of the school day, for example medication required three times a day may be able to be taken before and after school, and before bed.

Implementation:

- All prescription as well as non-prescription medication, including analgesics, such as paracetamol, aspirin and other medications which can be purchased over the counter without a prescription, are to be administered by school personnel following the processes and protocols set out in the Medication Management Procedures (see Appendix A) of the school.
- In order to ensure that the interests of staff, students and parents/guardians/approved persons are not compromised, medication will only be administered with explicit written permission from parent/guardian/approved person, or in the case of an emergency, with permission of a medical practitioner.
- When administering prescription medication on behalf of parent/carers, the written advice received must be supported by specific written instructions on the original medication bottle or container, such as that on the pharmacists label noting the name of the student, dosage and time to be administered. Analgesics can mask signs and symptoms of serious illness or injury and will not, therefore, be administered by the school, as a standard first aid strategy. Therefore analgesics such as aspirin and paracetamol will not be stored in the school's first aid kit.
- The principal (or nominee) administering medication needs to ensure that:
 - the right child;
 - has the right medication;
 - and the right dose;
 - by the right route (for example, oral or inhaled);
 - at the right time
 - permission to administer medication has been received from the child's

parents/guardians/approved persons or a medical practitioner.

- The principal or their nominee will inform teachers of those students in their charge who require medication to be administered at the school. The teachers may be required to release students at prescribed times so they may receive their medications from the principal or nominee.

EVALUATION:

The application of this policy will be monitored regularly. The policy will be reviewed as part of the schools review cycle to ensure effective delivery and outcomes.

Reviewed: 2016

Review: 2018

Appendix A

Medication Management Procedures

St Bernadette's has developed procedures for the appropriate storage and administration of prescribed and non-prescribed medicines to students by school staff with reference to individual student medical information.

1. Student Information

Parents and/or guardians are required to keep the school informed of current medical contact details concerning students and any current medical conditions and appropriate medical history. Every student who has a medical condition or illness has an individual management plan that is attached to the student's records. This management plan is provided by the student's parents/guardians and contains details of:

- the usual medical treatment needed by the student at school or on school activities
- the medical treatment and action needed if the student's condition deteriorates
- the name, address and telephone numbers for an emergency contact and the student's doctor

2. Administration of prescribed Oral Medication

Parents/guardians are required to inform the principal in writing of any prescribed medication that students need to take in school hours. Where medication is required in spontaneous situations, detailed administration instructions should be provided, for example in the case of asthma attacks. Medication Administration Permission Forms are available from the school office and should be completed and signed by the parent/guardian.

All medication sent to school is to be administered by school staff and, parents/guardians are required to supply medication in a container that gives the name of the medication, name of the student, the dose, and the time it is to be given.

Where medication for more than one day is supplied, it is to be locked in the storage cupboard in the school office.

