Administration of Medicines Policy Our Lady of the Wayside NS



Introduction

This policy deals with the administration of medicines to pupils and the supervised self-administration by pupils of medicine, both in the school and off the school premises on school- related activities.

The Board of Management has a duty to safeguard the health and safety of pupils when authorised to be on school premises or engaged in authorised school activities elsewhere. However, this does not impose a duty on teachers or administrative staff of the school to undertake personally the administration of medicines to pupils.

The Board of Management is committed to fostering a school environment that is welcoming and inclusive to all pupils, including those pupils who may have a chronic condition or may be temporarily ill. The Board of Management recognises that pupils may require to be administered medication or to self-administer medication under supervision during the school day. This may involve:

- 1. Pupils who require <u>regular or ongoing</u> medical treatment such as children with additional needs or children with a chronic condition
- 2. Emergency treatment of a child with a chronic condition
- 3. A pupil who Is finishing a short course of prescribed medication for an occasional illness.

Pupils who require regular or ongoing medical treatment.

The Board of Management understands that some pupils may have chronic conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy or anaphylaxis, which may be serious and can be potentially life threatening if not effectively managed.

Parents are requested to ensure that the school is made aware of any medical conditions which their child may have at the time of enrolment or at the time of the onset of a particular medical condition. Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that the school is kept up to date regarding any medical conditions which their child may have at the time of enrolment or develop subsequently. Parents/guardians are also responsible for ensuring that the school has up to date contact details, including details of at least one alternative emergency contact person.

Where Possible a child's GP or other treating doctor should arrange for the administration of prescribed medicines outside of school hours. If this is not possible, then it should be established if the parents/guardians could come to the school to administer the prescribed medication or supervise the self-administration of same.

If this is not possible, the following procedure must be followed by parents who want their children to be administered medication by a member of the school staff during the school day or to self-administer medication under supervision of a member of school staff.

Administration of Medicines Policy - May 2025

Parents/guardians should be aware that medication, other than emergency medication, will not be administered for the first time at school or on the school premises or on school related activities.

The Steps in the process are set out below.

STEP 1: Parent makes request in writing for approval or authorisation

Parents/guardians who wish members of staff to administer medicine to their child or to supervise self-administration by the child of medicine should write to the Board of Management requesting the Board of Management to authorise staff member(s) to administer the prescribed medicine or to supervise self administration by the child of medication, as the case may be. Non prescribed medicine will not be administered unless directed by the child's treating doctor in written instructions.

This letter of request should be accompanied by:

- ➤ A completed and signed Medical Information Form as set out in Appendix 1 of this policy.
- ➤ Written instructions from a doctor, preferably typed, setting out clearly the procedure to be followed in the administration of the medication. These instructions should contain:
 - The full name of the Student
 - The name of the medication to be administered
 - The expected duration of the course of medication
 - The exact dosage to be administered and the frequency of dosage
 - Specific instructions regarding the method of administration
 - Whether the child should be responsible for his her medication if the child is self administering the medication under supervision
 - Storage requirements
 - Any other essential information
- A signed Administration of Medicines Indemnity Form See Appendix 2

STEP 2: Consideration by the Board of Management

The Board of Management will consider all requests by parents/guardians to authorise staff to administer medicine to their child or to supervise self-administration of medicine provided that parents/guardians submit the required documentation. Parents/guardians may be requested to provide additional information or to attend a meeting at the Board of Management to assist the Board of Management in making its decision.

Parents/guardians must confirm their consent in the Medical Information Form for the disclosure of sensitive personal information relating to the child to appropriate staff members.

In the Event that the child has been prescribed medication for emergency purposes, Parents/guardians must confirm their consent for the administration of such medication by staff members.

The Board of Management may authorise staff members to administer prescribed medication to a pupil in accordance with the doctor's instructions or to supervise the self –administration of medication by a pupil. However, no staff member can be compelled to administer prescription medicines to a pupil.

The Board of Management may request the guardian/parent to organise a demonstration of the administration of the prescribed medicine by a medical professional or the Board may organise training of staff in the administration of the prescribed medicine.

Where the Board of Management approves the request, it will inform the school's insurers.

Emergency treatment of a child with a chronic condition.

Where a child with a chronic condition which may require emergency medication or emergency treatment, it is essential that the school is fully informed regarding the pupils condition.

Parents must complete STEPS 1 and 2 above.

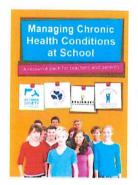
STEP 3 – In addition to STEPS 1 and 2, parents must attend an <u>EMERGENCY PLAN MEETING</u> with the school principal and the other school staff and provide specific information regarding their child's condition and, in particular the circumstances in which emergency medication may be required to be administered.

This information should be recorded in an **EMERGENCY PLAN**, which should be signed by the parents/guardians and the Principal.

The Emergency Plan should specify signs and symptoms of an attack, seizure or episode; the dosage of emergency medication to be administered in the case of an emergency and set out any further guidelines in relation to the emergency treatment of the pupil.

Staff members should be trained in best practice in the management of the condition and the administration of emergency medication.

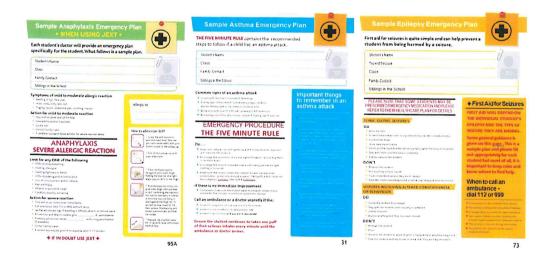
The Emergency plan should be brought to the attention of all staff members who have responsibility for the child with a chronic condition, including substitute teachers and SNA's.



The below EMERGENCY PLAN TEMPLATES below are samples sourced from the publication 'Managing Chronic Health Conditions at School'.

EMERGENCY PLANS WILL BE LAMINATED AND ADDED TO EMERGENCY GREEN BOX AND SHOULD BE WITH THE CHILD AT ALL TIMES.

A copy should be attached to the child's Medical information page and a full copy of all medical details should be added to Aladdin.





Supply and Storage of Medication

Non-prescribed medication will not be held by the school or administered by staff unless on the written instructions of the child's doctor.

Parents/guardians are responsible for the provision of the medication and ensuring that it is in date. The school will only store medication in its original packaging.

Parents/guardians should hand the medication to a nominated staff member and it should never be left in the child's school bag.

An exception may be made in the case of an inhailor for pupils from 3rd class onwards if a parent requests that it remains in child's bag/pocket etc. For younger children, inhailors will be stored in GREEN EMERGENCY BOXES.

Medication will be stored in a secure but accessible area. Please note, if an EMERGENCY PLAN in in place, green storage box will be used (see image below).



If an EMERGENCY PLAN is in place, that plan and associated medications must be strored in a GREEN EMERGENCY BOX labelled with the child's details and photograph.

These boxes are brought with the child to <u>all locations</u> on school premisis and school based outings.

They are to be stored on the wall inside the classroom door so they are readily available in the event of substitution etc.



Junior Infants to 2nd Class – Inhailors are stored in GREEN EMERGENCY BOXES along with an EMERGENCY PLAN.

3rd to 6th Class – A child <u>may</u> be permitted to store their inhallor in their bag/pocket etc. if parent explicitly requests it in writing.

It remains the responsibility of the parent to ensure the child brings it to/from school every day.

Parents/guardians are responsible for the disposal of out of date medication and must supply and dispose of sharps boxes if required.

Administration of Medicine

Any member of staff who administers prescribed medicines should only do so in accordance with the instructions of the child's doctor and any guidelines supplied by the parents/guardians. Every reasonable precaution must be taken on the part of the member of staff to discharge the responsibility correctly.

In administering medication to pupils, staff should exercise the standard of care of a reasonable and prudent parent

The name and dose of medication being administered will be checked by a second staff member and a written record of the time and date of administration will be co-signed and kept on the child's file in accordance with the record of Administration of Medication Form, which is at Appendix 3.

Staff will take all reasonable steps to administer medicine to the child or encourage the child to self administer medicine under supervision. However, staff will not force a child to take medicine in circumstances where the child refuses to take medication, other than in an emergency situation. In the event that a child refuses to take medicine, parents/guardians will be notified at the earliest opportunity and this will recorded on the Record of Administration of Medication Form

Changes and Updates

Parents/Guardians are required to renew the request for the administration of medication at the beginning of each school year and to complete Appendix 1 again. Parents/Guardians are responsible for notifying the school of any changes to the emergency contact details or information concerning any medical condition/allergy which their child may have.

A pupil who is finishing a short course of treatment for an occasional Illness

As a general rule, children who are sick and clearly unwell should not be in school. However, it may arise that a child who has been absent from school due to ill health may have made sufficient recovery to return to school but still require to finish a short term course of medicine

It is preferable if a parent/guardian or other family member attend at the school for the purposes of administering the medication or supervising the self-administration of same. However, where this is not possible, guardians/parents should follow the procedures set out below.

Where the course of treatment is short, it may not be the practicable for a request to be considered by the board of management. In the case of short courses of treatment, the principal will deal with requests for administration of medication or the supervised self-administration of medication.

Formal Request to Principal

Where Parents/guardians are unable to attend at the school in order to administer the medication themselves, the parent/guardian should contact the Principal to make a formal request for the administration or supervised self-administration of medication. Parents/guardians should be aware, however, that teachers have no contractual duty to administer medication in such circumstances and cannot be compelled to do so by the Principal or Board of Management. A principal will only consider such a request where:

- 1. The Request in writing
- 2. The request is accompanied by a written instruction from a doctor, preferably typed, setting out clearly the procedure to be followed in the administration of the medication. These instructions should contain:
 - The full name of the Student
 - The name of the medication to be administered

- The expected duration of the course of medication
- The exact dosage to be administered and the frequency of dosage
- Specific instructions regarding the method of administration
- Whether the child should be responsible for his her medication if the child is self administering the medication under supervision
- Storage requirements
- Any other essential information
- 3. The letter from the doctor must also certify the child as being fit to return to school.
- 4. A consent form must also be completed by the parent/guardian. This is included at Appendix 3

Where the principal or other staff member agrees to administer or supervise the self- administration of medicine, this will be confirmed to the parent/guardian in writing. In that case, the medicine should be hand delivered to the principal of the appropriate staff member; it should not be left in the child's school bag. No other medicine will be administered to the child.

In administering medication to pupils, staff should exercise the standard of care of a reasonable and prudent parent.

The name and dose of medication being administered will be checked by a second staff member and a written record of the time and date of administration will be co-signed and kept on the child's file in accordance with the Record of Administration of Medication Form, which is Appendix 2.

Staff will take all reasonable steps to administer medicine to the child or encourage the child to self administer medicine under supervision. In the event that the child refuses to allow medication to be administered or to self-administer his/her medication, he/she will not be forced to do so. Parents/guardians will be notified of the refusal as soon as practicable

In the event that the child becomes unwell, parents/guardians will be contacted as soon as practicable by the school and will collect or arrange for the collection of their child at the earliest opportunity. If the request for the administration of medicine is not approved, no medication should be brought to the school.

Appendix to this policy:

Appendix 1	Medical Information Form	
Appendix 2	Indemnity Form	
Appendix 3	Record of Admnistration of Medicines	

Raficication and Review

Signed: Mal State: U/5/25Signed: Juna Dounes Date: 19/5/25
Chairperson Principal

Medical Information Form

Appendix 1 – Administration of Medicines Policy

1. Student Information

Name of Student:	Class:
Date of Birth:	Age:
Address of Pupil:	
Siblings:	Names: Classes:
2. Contact Information	
Family Contact 1:	Mobile/Contact numbers:
Name:	Relationship to Pupil:
Family Contact 2:	Mobile/Contact numbers:
Name:	Relationship to Pupil:
Emergency Contact 1:	Mobile/Contact numbers:
Name:	Relationship to Pupil:
Emergency Contact 2:	Mobile/Contact numbers:
Name:	Relationship to Pupil:
3. Medical Contacts	
GP: Name: Phone Number: Addresss:	
Consultant/ Name:	
Hospital Nurse: Phone Number: Address/Location:	

4. Details of the Pupil's conditions

	Details, signs and symptoms of the pupil's condition:	=		
		- - -		
	Triggers or things which may make the pupil's condition worse:	_:		
		-		
5. Routine	e Healthcare Requirements			
	During school hours:			
		- *		
	Outside school hours:	-		
		-		
		· -		
6. Regular	Medication to be taken during school hours.			
		-		
	Is your child capable and permitted to self-administer medication with sup member?	ervision	of a	staff
	\square YES, my child is capable and permitted to self- administer the medication.			
	$\hfill\square$ NO, I am requsting that that medication be administered by a member of school	staff.		
7. Emergei	ncy Medication- Dosage and instructions for administration:			
-				
=				

8. Other Emergency Treatment:
9. Are there any special considerations of which the school should be aware regarding the pupil's participation in the school activities?
LO. Is there any other information of which the school should be aware relating to the pupil's health care in school?
The school may contact the above named persons for further information or training.
Consent to sharing of sensitive personal information regarding the pupil to appropriate staff members and emerger ontacts listed above.
agree that the information contained on this plan may be shared with members of staff involved with my hild's care and education. This also may include emergency services and those listed as emergency contacts below. In the school setting, the file will be scanned and password protected on our Digital Aladdin System. Hard copy will be stored securely in the Secretary's office.
understand that I must notify the school of any changes in relation to the healthcare requirements f my child in writing and in timely manner.
Signed by Parent:
Print name:
Date:
onsent for the administration of emergency medication or emergency treatment
n the event of a medical emergency, I agree that my child can be administered emergency medication or self- dminister emergency medication under supervision and/or receive treatment as set out in the child's mergency Plan.
Signed by Parent:
Print name:
Date:

Appendix 2

Administration of Medicine Indemnity Our Lady of the Wayside NS



THIS INDEMNITY made on	(date) BETWEEN	
(lawful father and mother) of	(child's 1	name) of AND for and on behalf of th
Board of Management of Our Lady of the Way	vside National School situate	at in the County of Dublin.
WHEREAS		
1. The parents are respectively the lawful father above school.	er and mother of	a child at the
2. The child suffers on an on-going basis from	the condition known as	
3. The child may, while attending the said sch following medication:	ool, require, in emergency c	rcumstances, the administration of the
4. The parents have agreed that the said medical member of staff of the said school as may be d	ation may, in emergency circ esignated from time to time	cumstances, be administered by a by the Board.
a) In consideration of the Board entering i mother respectively of the said pupil H servants and agents including without p future, arising from the administration of the servants.	into the within Agreement, the EREBY AGREE to indemnionejudice to hool from and ag	ne parents, as the lawful father and fy and keep indemnified the Board, it gainst all claims, both present and
IN WITNESS whereof the parties hereto have first herein WRITTEN.	hereunto set their hands and	affixed their seals the day and year
SIGNED AND SEALED by the parents in the	presence of:	(Name of Witness)
SIGNED AND SEALED by the parents below	in the presence of:	
Parent Signature:	Witness Signature:	
	Witness Signature	

Appendix 3

Record of Administration of Medicine Our Lady of the Wayside NS



Strictly Private and Confidential

Date	Time	Dosage	Admnistered By:	Witnessed By:
				Tritilesseu By.
1				

Pupil's Name:_

Administration of Medicines Policy – May 2025