

# Greenwich House Independent School, Kindergarten and Creche

## Policy for the Administration of Medicines

This policy refers to Department for Education's Support pupils at school with medical conditions (December 2015) particularly paragraphs 21 to 25. A link to this document is provided below:-

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/803956/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/803956/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions.pdf)

This policy also refers to the Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage (EYFS) (published 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023; effective 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023) the link for which is below:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1170108/EYFS\\_framework\\_from\\_September\\_2023.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1170108/EYFS_framework_from_September_2023.pdf)

At the time of the review of this policy, additional and alternative procedures and practices are being followed in respect of **Coronavirus Covid-19** and this policy should be read in light of and subject to these procedures and practices. These procedures and practices have, where appropriate, been provided to employees, parents and carers and pupils as well as other effected parties

**N.B The procedures described below must be carried out by a senior member of staff – the management team in school or kindergarten and creche or those expressly authorized by them-and any medicines must be prescribed by a doctor (unless for teething or, in the case of Calpol, for a child's temperature over 39 degrees celsius we wait for a parent or carer to collect and subject to prior consent as set out in this policy). As stressed further below, Aspirin or medication containing Aspirin will not be administered to any children unless it is prescribed by a doctor for a specific medical condition.**

- When a parent/carer asks for medicine to be given to their child, first ask why the child is on medication. This will help in determining whether the child should be at Creche/ Kindergarten or School at all whilst they are ill.

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- Check that it is the child's own name on the bottle - not only on the box. Read the labels giving dosage and frequency and instructions for administration.

**N.B Bottles saying "as directed" are NOT sufficient and more detailed and precise directions are required before treatment can be given by staff of Greenwich House.**

- If the medication has not been prescribed by a doctor follow the instructions on the label for the age of the child - after first asking the parent/carer if the child is sensitive/allergic to this medicine.
- Aspirin or medication containing Aspirin will **not** be administered to any children unless it is prescribed by a doctor for a specific medical condition.
- **No medication will be given to the child unless provided by the parent/carer following the above guidance.**
  
- Check the expiry date and the date that it was prescribed if provided by a doctor.
  
- **Never give medicine prescribed to anyone other than the child in question.**
- Staff will ensure that a new/current medication form is completed by parent/carer for each day that the medication is expected to be administered.
- Write down the details on a medication form of what the medicine is for, the recommended dosage and the frequency that it has to be given.
- All columns of information required on the medication form must be completed before the treatment by the staff can begin.
- When these details have been recorded on the medication form ask the parent/carer to check their accuracy and then to sign the authorisation.
- Write a memo on the day board next to the child's name. eg. Susan M - 12 noon + 4.00pm
  
- If medicine is to be kept at a low temperature, put it in the STAFF ROOM FRIDGE.
- All other medicines should immediately be put out of reach of the children in the locked cupboard in the medical room.
  
- When administering the medication, use a medicine measure or provided spoon or syringe (the latter for small babies).
- Two members of staff must check the details (child/time/dose) and concur.
- **Care and attention must be taken at all times.**
  
- When the medicine has been given both members of staff must sign the Medicine form. The medication should immediately be returned to its storage station until the child is ready to leave **when it must be handed to the parent/carer.**
  
- The medical spoon/syringe must be washed/sterilised if the child is not yet going home.

#### **- Administration of Specialist Medication.**

We recognise that there may be times when children require specialist medication to be administered for long term medical needs during their time at Greenwich House School, Kindergarten or Creche. In order that this is regulated as well as following the Standard Medications Policy we shall ensure that:

Specific permission, instruction and training will be obtained before an agreement is reached with a parent/carer to administer specialist medications (eg nebuliser), and life saving/emergency medications (such as adrenaline injections) and a health plan is established. This will include:

- Where required, a letter from the child's GP/Consultant stating that the child is fit enough to attend Greenwich House School, Kindergarten or Creche and sufficient information about the child's condition.
- We discuss with parents/carers the medication that their child needs to take and the level of support required, instructions on how and when the medication is to be administered and what training is required.
- Training on the administration of the prescription medication that requires technical/medical knowledge will be arranged for staff from a qualified health professional to ensure medication is administered safely.
- Written proof of training (if required in the administration of the medication) by the child's General Practitioner, District Nurse, Community Paediatric Nurse or specialist.
- A health plan will be developed in partnership with parents and any health professional and the needs and support required will be regularly reviewed.

**Should there ever be any uncertainty about giving medicine during the school day contact the parents in order to answer queries BEFORE administering the medicine.**

\* Ensure that all information is passed on to relevant members of staff eg. staff changes which may occur during the day.

As per the guidance the following is unacceptable:

“Although school staff should use their discretion and judge each case on its merits with reference to the child's individual healthcare plan, it is not generally acceptable practice to:

- prevent children from easily accessing their inhalers and medication and administering their medication when and where necessary;
- assume that every child with the same condition requires the same treatment;
- ignore the views of the child or their parents; or ignore medical evidence or opinion (although this may be challenged);
- send children with medical conditions home frequently for reasons associated with their medical condition or prevent them from staying for normal school activities, including lunch, unless this is specified in their individual healthcare plans;
- if the child becomes ill, send them to the school office or medical room unaccompanied or with someone unsuitable;
- penalise children for their attendance record if their absences are related to their medical condition, e.g. hospital appointments;
- prevent pupils from drinking, eating or taking toilet or other breaks whenever they need to in order to manage their medical condition effectively;
- require parents, or otherwise make them feel obliged, to attend school to administer medication or provide medical support to their child, including with toileting issues. No parent should have to give up working because the school is failing to support their child's medical needs; or
- prevent children from participating, or create unnecessary barriers to children participating in any aspect of school life, including school trips, e.g. by requiring parents to accompany the child.

Signed on behalf of the setting by:

.....Mrs. A. Brindle..... Head Teacher

Date: reviewed May 2021  
reviewed September 2021  
reviewed March 2023  
reviewed September 2023