

## MEDICINE & SICK CHILD POLICY

POLICY	MEDICINE & SICK CHILD POLICY
FUNCTION	HEALTH CARE
STATUS	RECOMMENDED
AUDIENCE	STUDENTS / SCHOOL STAFF/PARENTS
IMPLEMENTATION	SCHOOL DOCTOR / NURSE
ISSUED FOR	STUDENTS AND STAFF
DATE OF REVIEW	APRIL 2016 NEXT REVIEW : MARCH 2017
LEAD PROFESSIONAL	PRINCIPAL

## MEDICINE POLICY

Ideally, the administration of medication should be by parents. Where possible it is the school's policy to comply with requests from parents to help in administering medicines to children when these are of an essential nature (e.g. epilepsy, diabetes, asthma, anaphylaxis), during the school day.

The Principal will accept responsibility in principle for members of the school staff giving or supervising pupils taking prescribed medication during the school day where those members of staff have volunteered to do so.

The school clinic has its own supply of medications. Prior to administering of any medication to a primary school child, parents will be notified and verbal consent will be obtained. However in case of emergency and if parents are not contactable, it will be at the discretion of the school doctor and nurse to medicate the child. Students are not allowed to carry any medications around the school , except inhalers, for asthmatic students.

*Please note that parents should keep their children at home if acutely unwell or infectious.*

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

Antibiotics should be administered at home. 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. If a child need medication to be administered during the school hours, a doctor's prescription needs to be obtained.

Each item of medication must be delivered to the School Nurse, in normal circumstances by the parent, in a secure and labelled container as originally dispensed and can be collected at the end of the school day or at the end of the prescribed course. For those students who need to receive regular doses of a prescribed medication (i.e.

insulin Asthma inhalers, Nebulizers, Eye drops) , a consent form needs to be completed which specifies name of the prescribed medication, required doses and timings.

Each item of medication must be clearly labeled with the following information: Pupil's Name.

Name of medication. .

Dosage.

Frequency of administration.

Date of dispensing.

Storage requirements (if important).

Expiry date.

### **Medical Reports –**

A medical report must be submitted to the school where there is any change in health condition or a new medical condition for your child. Changes in certain health conditions may impact on the wellbeing of the students and any treatment given by the clinic. If your child has a pre-existing condition, the school clinic needs to be notified in advance.

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

# Sick Child Policy:

The following illness policy will be strictly enforced, for the health, wellbeing and safety of all concerned.

Under no circumstances may a parent bring a sick child to school, if the child shows any signs of illness or is unable to participate in the normal routine and regular school day.

In the event a child becomes ill and needs to be picked up, the parent(s) will be called and are expected to come pick the child up within one hour (60 minutes). If the parent(s) cannot be reached, or have not arrived within an hour, the emergency contact person will be called and asked to come pick the child up. In the event a child complains about not feeling well during the school day, the parent will be contacted.

**Following are the few guidelines to help parent / guardian in deciding when to keep your child home from school.**

<b>Symptoms</b>	<b>Students must be at home</b>
<p><b>Diarrhea</b> Frequent , loose or watery stools compared to child's normal pattern, not caused by diet or medication</p>	<p><b>Yes</b> – If your child looks or acts ill, if the child has diarrhea with a fever and / or vomiting. Make sure your child stays well hydrated. Students can return when he/she has not had diarrhea during the last 24 hours.</p>
<p><b>Fever</b> Fever is the body's way of destroying the germs making it sick, and it's a common symptom of infections.</p>	<p><b>Yes</b> - When fever is above 37.7C and is accompanied by other symptoms of illness, such as rash, sore throat, vomiting, headache, muscle aches, loss of appetite, etc. Student can return when fever has been gone for 24 hours without medication and the child's appetite and energy level returned to normal.</p>
<p><b>Flu</b> The flu can be serious. Symptoms of the flu typically come on suddenly and can include: fever, chills, headache, body aches, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, dry cough</p>	<p><b>Yes</b> - If your child has a fever above 37.7C or will be unable to participate in class. Student can return when fever has been gone for 24 hours without medication and energy level has returned to normal.</p>
<p><b>Coughing</b> Severe, uncontrolled coughing or wheezing, rapid or difficulty breathing Note: Children with asthma may be cared for in school with a written health care plan and authorization for medication/treatment</p>	<p><b>Yes</b> - Medical attention is necessary</p>

<b>Symptoms</b>	<b>Students must be at home</b>
<p><b>Mild Respiratory or Cold Symptoms</b> Stuffy nose with clear drainage, sneezing, mild cough</p>	<p><b>No</b> - Child may attend school if able to participate in class.</p>
<p><b>Rash</b></p>	<p><b>No</b> - Body rash without fever or other symptoms usually does not require student to remain at home <b>Yes</b> -Seek medical advice for rash with fever, open and weeping wounds, or quickly spreading rash</p>
<p><b>Vomiting</b> Vomiting is another way for the body to rid itself of the germs making it sick and is usually caused by a stomach virus or infection.</p>	<p><b>Yes</b> - Keep students home if they have vomited 2 or more times in the last 24 hours. Student can return when he/she has not had vomiting during the last 24 hours.</p>
<p><b>Pinkeye (conjunctivitis)</b> Symptoms of pinkeye include eye redness, itchiness, discharge that forms a crust during the night that may prevent your eye or eyes from opening in the morning</p>	<p><b>Yes</b> - If given antibiotics, please keep at home until he/she has taken the antibiotics for at least 24 hours.</p>