

Inwoods Small School

INWOODS SMALL SCHOOL (including EYFS) ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINE

Last Review Date	August 2024
Policy endorsed by	Trustees and School Management Committee
Policy is maintained by	School Coordinator
Next review date	August 2025
Review body	School Management Committee

Aim

The good health and safety of children is a shared responsibility between parents and staff. Parents and staff must keep each other informed if the child becomes unwell, either at home or at school. If a child becomes ill at school, a parent is to be called and told to collect the child. While the child is waiting to be collected they will be looked after by a member of staff who will ensure they are comfortable. We follow the Government Guidance on health protection in schools to ensure procedures are in place to take appropriate action when children are ill. High standards of cleanliness and hygiene are expected at all times to help prevent illness and the spread of infection.

Procedure for the Administration of Medicine

- Any parent arriving at Inwoods with medication is to be asked to go to their child's key teacher.
- If any medication is to be given during the school day (both prescription and non-prescription), parents and/or caregiver must give staff their written, signed permission and instructions. Forms for this purpose are kept in the staff office and must be signed by a paediatric first-aid-trained staff member once medication has been given.
- At the end of the school day, medications are to be returned to the parent along with the signed permission slip stating the time the medication was administered. Providers must keep a written record each time a medicine is administered to a child.
- The Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework (2023) states that prescription medicines should not be administered unless they have been prescribed by a doctor, dentist, nurse or pharmacist.
- Before agreeing to admit a child with a serious chronic condition (e.g. anaphylaxis), the school's insurers must be consulted. Once the child is enrolled, his or her parents must regularly explain and update to all staff all medical and emergency procedures.

Sanatorium

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If a child is unwell and waiting to be collected, they are made as comfortable as possible by the teachers, where they can be supervised but as separate as possible from the other children. In the event that a child is seriously ill and showing signs of potentially vomiting or having diarrhoea, then they will be taken to the sanatorium at Brockwood Park School which is equipped with water and toilet facilities.

Safe Storage

- Medications must be stored in accordance with the product instructions and in the original container in which they were dispensed. They must include the prescriber's instructions for administration. Medication is stored either in the medicine cabinet in the Big Barn classroom, or if necessary, in the fridge in a clearly labelled container with specific instructions.
- Children who use asthma inhalers, EpiPens and diabetic pens will have these kept in the medicine cabinet in the Big Barn clearly labelled. They will not be locked away, and made available when required.
- We have an emergency EpiPen that will be administered only if recommended by paramedics in the exceptional case of a child having a severe anaphylactic shock for the first time.

Staff

- Staff must not be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance which may affect their ability to care for children. If staff are taking medication which may affect their ability to care for children, those staff should seek medical advice and only work directly with children if the medical advice confirms that the medication is unlikely to impair that staff member's ability to look after children properly.
- Staff medication on the premises must be securely stored in the locked medicine cabinet.
- Training will be provided for staff where the administration of medicine requires medical or technical knowledge.