

West Pennard Church of England Primary School

FIRST AID MEDICINE POLICY

United Nations Conventions of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

Article 3: The best interests of the child must be the top priority in all actions concerning children

Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health

Children and staff would not be expected to attend school when faced with ill health. Under normal circumstances no medicines will be held within the school excepting personal medication which may be retained directly by staff.

Somerset County Council Health and Safety Policy prevent staff from administering medication and so many parents elect to visit the school themselves to administer medication which of course we do welcome. If this is not possible we advise that parents of children receiving antibiotics who are deemed well enough to attend school discuss with their GP prescribing medication that can be administered outside of school time. Parents needing advice should contact Caroline Masters, our first aid and medicines contact.

There are also a number of conditions which require regular or immediate medication. If this is the case, then parents should inform the school and an individual Healthcare Plan will be drawn up for the child. Where the school needs to administer medication, eg for diabetes, then staff should be trained annually by medical staff on correct procedures. The trainer should sign to say that the person who has been trained is competent to administer medication. No staff member should feel pressured to administer medication.

In key stage 1 asthma inhalers should be held by the class teacher for safekeeping and must be clearly labelled. Assistance by a member of staff can be given, although by Year 1, we would encourage the child to administer their inhaler themselves. By key stage 2 children keep their inhalers in their school bags/drawers and manage their medication independently. If a child has an asthma attack and does not have their medication then the school will ring for an ambulance and request permission from a paramedic to use another child's inhaler.

The information in respect of childhood illnesses as laid down by the Schools' Medical Doctor will apply. This has been included for reference in this policy. As there is always conflict amongst the medical profession, all Somerset schools will abide by these requirements.

It is recommended that children, having suffered a bout of sickness and / or diarrhoea, do not return to school until 48 hours after the symptoms have ceased.

During the course of the school day accidents and sickness do on occasions occur. We do not hold any medication in school at all as we are obliged only to act upon instructions from parents. It is true to say that we have an abundance of TLC (tender loving care) and this we administer freely! Should this prove insufficient then parents will be informed if we feel the child would be better off at home.

In the event of accidents the same will apply and parents will be asked to collect the pupils unless it is an extreme emergency. If this is the case the school would transport the casualty to the local hospital.

Please be assured that the well being of the child remains our priority and it is for this reason that we draw up this policy.

Infections transmitted by inhalation via the nose and throat:

Diseases	Incubation Period	Exclusion of Cases
Chicken Pox	14-21 days	5 days from onset of rash or until vesicles become dry if sooner.
Hand, Foot & Mouth	3-5 days	None
Measles		
Mumps	10-15 days	4 days from onset of rash
Pertussis	12-26 days	5 days after onset of swelling
(Whooping cough)	7-10 days	21 days from onset of paroxysmal cough, or until case has received at least 5 days of a
Rubella (German Measles)	14-21 days	14 day course of antibiotics
Streptococcal Throat (Scarlet Fever)	1-3 days	6 days from onset of rash
		1 day after commencing antibiotic treatment

Infections transmitted by direct contact:

Diseases	Exclusion of Cases
Conjunctivitis	None
Impetigo	Exclude until skin has healed or 48 hours after antibiotic treatment
Lice and Nits (Pediculosis)	None
Scabies	
Ringworm of Scalp	Exclude until first treatment has been received
Ringworm of Body	None
Verrucae	None
	None. Verrucae should be covered in swimming pools, gymnasiums and changing rooms.
Slapped cheek	
Cold sores	None
	None

Please note that children should not return to school until **48 hours** have passed from last episode of **diarrhoea or vomiting**.