



ADMINISTERING MEDICATION POLICY FOR ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, GORTIN

The most common ailments suffered by pupils are asthma, epilepsy and diabetes. Anaphylaxis and extreme allergic reactions to certain foods, such as nuts, fish and dairy products, is on the increase. Staff are therefore being increasingly called to administer medication to pupils. Staffs' conditions of employment do not include giving medication or supervising a pupil taking medication may volunteer to do this.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING MEDICATION?

The prime responsibility for a pupil's health rests with the parent/guardian. However, to enable pupils requiring medication to participate as fully as possible in school's activities the school may agree to assist a child with medical needs.

The Employer will ensure that all staff acting within the scope of the Pupil's Health Care Plan as well as within their terms and conditions of employment will be indemnified for actions taken that are associated with the administration of medicines.

SHORT TERM MEDICATION

There are times when pupils request painkillers at school including aspirin and paracetamol. School staff will not give non-prescribed medication. If a pupil suffers from acute pain regularly, e.g. migraine, the parents should authorise and supply the appropriate painkillers.

PRESCRIBED MEDICATION - LONG TERM MEDICAL NEEDS

Some pupils may have medical conditions, which will require regular administration of medication in order to maintain their access to education. These pupils are regarded as having medical needs. Most children with medical needs are able to attend school regularly and with support from the school can take part in most normal school activities.

In some cases, pupils with medical needs may be more at risk than their classmates. The school may need to take additional steps to safeguard the health and safety of such pupils.

REVIEWED BY BOG - NOV 21ST 2019

NEXT REVIEW DATE - NOV 2021