

St Charles RC Primary School

Medicines Policy



CHRIST IS AT THE CENTRE



Compassionate
Helpful
Respectful
Inclusive
Sharing
Truthful



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Our mission at St. Charles RC Primary School is to try and centre our life in Jesus Christ, the spiritual foundation of our community.

We aim to pass on the faith we share in partnership with you.

We want the children in our care to grow and develop to their full potential within a caring Catholic community which recognises fully their true worth and God given talents. We look forward to working with you in a spirit of mutual trust and support.

We take pride belonging to St. Charles RC Primary School.

MISSION STATEMENT

As a family of God, we love to learn and learn to love

Medicines Policy

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that any medicines administered within school are done so in a safe and monitored environment. It has been written using guidance from the DFE notes "Managing Medicines in School and Early Years Settings" from March 2005. Children with medical needs have the same rights of admission to a school or setting as other children.

Most children will at some time have short-term medical needs, perhaps entailing finishing a course of medicine such as antibiotics. Some children however have longer term medical needs and may require medicines on a long-term basis to keep them well, for example children with well-controlled epilepsy or cystic fibrosis. In line with government guidelines we would ask that children are not sent to school when they are clearly unwell or infectious.

Parental Responsibility

Parents/Carers have the prime responsibility for their child's health and should provide St Charles RC Primary School with information about their child's medical condition. This should be done upon admission or when their child first develops a medical need.

Where a child has a long term medical need then a health plan will be drawn up with the Parents/Carers and Health Professionals.

Prescribed Drugs

Medicines should only be taken to school where it would be detrimental to a child's health if the medicine were not administered during the school day. St Charles RC Primary School can only accept medicines that have been prescribed by a doctor, dentist, nurse prescriber or pharmacist prescriber.

Medicines should always be provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include the prescriber's instructions for administration. Medicines will be stored in a locked cabinet during the day or a secure fridge if necessary.

A record will be made of when the medicine was dispensed.

Parent/Carer should make arrangements to collect the medicine from the school office at the end of the day unless alternative arrangements are made with the school staff.

Medicines will not be handed to a child to bring home unless agreed as in Self- Management below.

Non Prescribed drugs

We will not administer non-prescribed drugs such as Calpol or Ibuprofen, unless a consent form has been signed by the parent/carer.

Refusal of Medicine

If a child refuses to take medicine, we will not force them to do so, but will note this in the records and contact the named contact on the medicine record form. If a refusal to take medicines results in an emergency then our emergency procedures will be followed.

Self-Management

Older children with a long-term illness should, whenever possible, assume complete responsibility under the supervision of their parent.

Children develop at different rates and so the ability to take responsibility for their own medicines varies. This should be borne in mind when making a decision about transferring responsibility to a child or young person.

There is no set age when this transition should be made. There may be circumstances where it is not appropriate for a child of any age to self-manage. Health professionals need to assess, with parents and children, the appropriate time to make this transition.

Parents/Carers will be required to complete a “Self-Management” form which will detail where the medicines are to be stored during the school day.

Educational Visits

St Charles RC Primary School will make reasonable adjustments to enable children with medical needs to participate fully and safely on visits. Any risk assessments undertaken will allow for such children.

Staff supervising excursions will be aware of any medical needs, and relevant emergency procedures. A copy of any health care plans will be taken on visits in the event of the information being needed in an emergency.

If staff are concerned about whether they can provide for a child’s safety, or the safety of other children on a visit, they will seek parental views and medical advice from the school health service or the child’s GP.

Sporting Activities

Most children with medical conditions can participate in physical activities and extracurricular sport. There should be sufficient flexibility for all children to follow in ways appropriate to their own abilities. For many, physical activity can benefit their overall social, mental and physical health and well-being. Any restrictions on a child’s ability to participate in PE should be recorded in their individual health care plan.

The school is aware of issues of privacy and dignity for children with particular needs. Some children may need to take precautionary measures before or during exercise, and may also need to be allowed immediate access to their medicines such as asthma inhalers.

Known medical conditions

Staff will be made aware of all pupils with known medical conditions.

Equalities Statement:

St Charles RC Primary School is committed to valuing diversity and to equality of opportunity. We aim to create and promote an environment in which pupils, parents and staff are treated fairly and with respect, and feel able to contribute to the best of their abilities. The Governing Body recognises that it is unlawful to take into account anyone’s gender, marital status, colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, disability, religious beliefs, age or sexual orientation. Full consideration has been given to this during the formulation of this policy as it is the governors’ aim that no-one at St Charles RC Primary school should suffer discrimination, either directly or indirectly, or harassment on any of these grounds.