# **Logo  Description automatically generatedAdministration of Medicine Policy**

All designated staff are responsible for administering medication to children; ensuring consent forms are completed, medicines stored correctly and records kept.

Administering medicines during the child’s session will only be done if absolutely necessary.

**Consent for administering medication**

* Only a person with parental responsibility (PR), or a foster carer may give consent. A childminder, grandparent, parent’s partner who does not have PR, cannot give consent.
* When bringing in medicine, the parent informs their key person or supervisor. The setting assistant manager or manager should also be informed.
* Staff who receive the medication, check it is in date and prescribed specifically for the current condition. It must be in the original container (not decanted into a separate bottle). It must be labelled with the child’s name and original pharmacist’s label.
* Medication dispensed by a hospital pharmacy will not have the child’s details on the label but should have a dispensing label. Staff must check with parents and record the circumstance of the events and hospital instructions as relayed to them by the parents.
* Members of staff who receive the medication ask the parent to sign the medication book stating the following information. No medication is given without these details:
* full name of child and date of birth
* name of medication and strength
* who prescribed it
* dosage to be given
* how the medication should be stored and expiry date
* signature and printed name of parent and date

After the medication

* the date and time of dose
* dose given and method
* signed by key person/setting manager
* verified by parent signature at the end of the day
* A witness signs the medicine record book to verify that they have witnessed medication being given correctly according to the procedures here.

**Storage of medicines**

All medicines are stored safely. Refrigerated medication is stored in the fridge in the kitchen

* The person signing children out at the end of the day is responsible for ensuring medicine is handed back to the parent.
* For some conditions, medication for an individual child may be kept at the setting. A care plan form must be completed. Key persons check that it is in date and return any out-of-date medication to the parent.
* Parents do not access where medication is stored, to reduce the possibility of a mix-up with medication for another child, or staff not knowing there has been a change.

**Record of administering medicines**

A record of medicines administered is kept near to the medicine cabinet or in the child’s group room, or in the setting manager’s office. Settings can choose which works best for them, as long as members of staff are aware and it is consistent

The medicine record book records:

* name of child
* name and strength of medication
* the date and time of dose
* dose given and method
* signed by key person/setting manager
* verified by parent signature at the end of the day

A witness signs the medicine record book to verify that they have witnessed medication being given correctly according to the procedures here.

* No child may self-administer. If children are capable of understanding when they need medication, e.g., for asthma, they are encouraged to tell their key person what they need. This does not replace staff vigilance in knowing and responding.

**Children with long term medical conditions requiring ongoing medication**

* Risk assessment is carried out for children that require ongoing medication. This is the responsibility of the setting manager and key person. Other medical or social care personnel may be involved in the risk assessment.
* Parents contribute to risk assessment. They are shown around the setting, understand routines and activities and discuss any risk factor for their child.
* For some medical conditions, key staff will require basic training to understand it and know how medication is administered. Training needs is part of the risk assessment.
* Risk assessment includes any activity that may give cause for concern regarding an individual child’s health needs.
* Risk assessment also includes arrangements for medicines on outings; advice from the child’s GP’s is sought, if necessary, where there are concerns.
* A Care plan form is completed fully with the parent; outlining the key person’s role and what information is shared with other staff who care for the child.
* The plan is reviewed every six months (more if needed). This includes reviewing the medication, for example, changes to the medication or the dosage, any side effects noted etc.

**Managing medicines on trips and outings**

* Children are accompanied by their key person, or other staff member who is fully informed about their needs and medication.
* Medication is taken in a plastic box or zip lock bag labelled with the child’s name and name of medication
* If a child on medication must be taken to hospital, the child’s medication is taken in a sealed plastic box clearly labelled as above.

**Staff taking medication**

Staff taking medication must inform their manager, this information is stored securely in the office alongside the personnel files. The medication must be stored securely in staff lockers or a secure area away from the children. The manager must be made aware of any contra-indications for the medicine so that they can risk assess and take appropriate action as required.

Agreed by Lympstone Preschool Committee Date: 24/08/2023