

Stanhope Barrington C of E
Primary School



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Head Teacher: Mrs D Cross

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Dear Parent/Carer

4th September 2023

Re: Changes to Non-Prescription Medication

I am really pleased to inform you of some changes to our policy on the administration of non-prescription medication. Our previous policy, as advised by Durham County Council, the MAT and Administration of Medication training courses was that staff in schools should NOT administer any medication which had not been prescribed by a GP.

It was brought to my attention last term by a parent just how difficult this was for parents & carers, particularly those whose children required antihistamines due to allergies. They had experienced having to wait a significant amount of time for a GP appointment; they then found that GP's felt these appointments were not an appropriate use of their time; on occasion I was informed of a GP refusing to give a prescription and in addition, parents were having to take time off work and children were missing school to attend these appointments.

Upon reflection, despite the advice detailed above, I believe that there are times when common sense must prevail and therefore, I have taken the decision to amend our policy to allow for staff who are trained in the Administration of Medication to administer non-prescription medication if those members of staff agree to do so. Please note that at the current time our trained staff are all happy to do this however, should staff change, they cannot be forced to administer non-prescription medication if they do not wish to do so.

If you require your child to have non-prescription medication during school time, you need to discuss this with either myself or Mrs Wilson (School Secretary) and if this is agreed, you will need to sign a consent form available from the school office.

I would like to thank parents for bringing this problem to my attention and giving us the opportunity to find a sensible solution.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross
Mrs D Cross
Head Teacher

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