

Medicines

I am happy to give your child non-prescribed medication, such as cough mixture, Calpol, teething gel etc, but only if you have signed a parental permission form for me to do so.

A full list of every non-prescribed medication I have in my setting and that may be given to your child is listed within the parental permission form.

This permission form will be regularly reviewed to ensure that there are no changes, for example a child may no longer be able to take some medication or may need an additional form.

It is vital that you inform me of any medication you may have given your child before they arrive into my care. I need to know what medicine they have had, the dose and time given.

I will ensure that all medication given to me will be stored correctly and I will check that it is still within its expiry date,

If your child has acute allergies and carries/needs an epipen or your child takes regular medication please discuss the matter with me. I may need additional training to administer these forms of medication before I can look after your child.

If your child needs to take medication prescribed by a doctor, please discuss this with me. I will need you to sign an additional permission form before I can administer this medication to your child.

In some cases a child on antibiotics may be asked not to attend for 2-3 days in case they react to the medication and to prevent the spread of an infection to others, I will follow the guidance set out by the HPA - Health Protection Agency where they detail the most common infectious diseases and the recommended periods for which children should be kept away from school or nursery.

All medicine given to me to administer must be in its original bottle/container and not decanted. It must have the manufacturers guidelines on it and if a prescription medication the details from the Doctor / Pharmacy / Dentist or Health Professional.

I will record the course of medication along with the date and time each dose was administered to your child onto the Baby's Days system and request a parental digital signature at the end of the course of medication.

I adhere to the requirements of the EYFS when administering medicines - both prescribed and unprescribed. In October 2016 the Department for Education (DFE) clarified the rules of administering medicines as the EYFS itself was a little ambiguous and was causing some confusion. The DFE issued the following statement:

"This article seeks to clarify the current guidance on administering medicines in early years settings. Paragraph 3.45 of the EYFS states that 'medicines must not usually be administered unless they have been prescribed'. This means that it must not be usual practice for an early years provider to administer medicines without permission to do so and not that all medicines, both prescription and non-prescription have to have been prescribed for a child by a doctor, dentist, nurse or pharmacist. For example, a provider cannot decide for themselves that a particular child needs to have a pain or fever reliever.

Both prescription and non-prescription medicines can only be administered where written permission has been obtained from the child's parent or carer. Providers should not expect parents to make unnecessary appointments with their child's doctor to obtain prescriptions for medicines (other than for medicines containing aspirin) that can normally be obtained directly from a chemist. When the EYFS is next amended the DfE will use the opportunity to clarify the section on medicines so that this is clear".

Last reviewed 12/02/23