



MEDICATIONS

Rationale:

- Teachers and schools are often asked by parents to administer medication for their children while at school. It is important that such requests are managed in a manner that is appropriate, ensures the safety of students, and fulfils the duty of care of staff.

Aims:

- To ensure the medications are administered appropriately to students in our care.

Implementation:

- Children who are unwell should not attend school.
- The Business Manager has agreed to be the staff member responsible for administering prescribed medications to children.
- Non-prescribed oral medications (eg: head-ache tablets) will not be administered by school staff without written/verbal permission from parents/guardians.
- All parent requests for staff to administer prescribed medications to their child must be in writing on the form provided and must be supported by specific written instruction from the medical practitioner or pharmacist's including the name of the student, dosage and time to be administered (original medications bottle or container should provide this information).
- All verbal requests for children to be administered prescribed medications whilst at school must be directed to the Principal, who in turn, will seek a meeting or discussion with parents to confirm details of the request and to outline school staff responsibilities.
- Requests for prescribed medications to be administered by the school 'as needed' will cause the Principal to seek further written clarification from the parents.
- All student medications must be in the original containers, must be labelled, must have the quantity of tablets confirmed and documented, and must be stored in either the locked office first aid cabinet or office refrigerator, whichever is most appropriate.
- Consistent with our Asthma policy, students who provide the Principal with written parent permission supported by approval of the principal may carry an asthma inhaler with them.
- Classroom teachers will be informed by the Principal of prescribed medications for students in their charge, and classroom teachers will release students at prescribed times so that they may visit the school office and receive their medications from the Principal/Business Manager.
- All completed Medication Request Forms and details relating to students, their prescribed medication, dosage quantities and times of administering will be kept and recorded in a confidential official loose-leaf medications register located in the school office by the business Manager in the presence of, and confirmed by, a second staff member.
- Students involved in school camps or excursions will be discreetly administered prescribed medications by the 'Teacher in Charge' in a manner consistent with the above procedures, with all details recorded on loose-leaf pages from the official medications register. Completed pages will be returned to the official medications register on return of the excursion to school.

- Parents/carers of students that may require injections are required to meet with the Principal to discuss the matter.

Warning

Port Fairy Consolidated School will not:

- in accordance with Department of Education and Training policy, store or administer analgesics such as aspirin and paracetamol as a standard first aid strategy as they can mask signs and symptoms of serious illness or injury
- allow a student to take their first dose of a new medication at school in case of an allergic reaction. This should be done under the supervision of the student's parents, carers or health practitioner
- allow use of medication by anyone other than the prescribed student except in a life threatening emergency, for example if a student is having an asthma attack and their own puffer is not readily available.

Medication error

If a student takes medication incorrectly, staff will endeavour to:

Step	Action
1.	If required, follow first aid procedures outlined in the student's Health Support Plan or other medical management plan.
2.	Ring the Poisons Information Line, 13 11 26 and give details of the incident and the student.
3.	Act immediately upon their advice, such as calling Triple Zero "000" if advised to do so.
4.	Contact the student's parents/carers or emergency contact person to notify them of the medication error and action taken.
5.	Review medication management procedures at the school in light of the incident.

In the case of an emergency, school staff may call Triple Zero "000" for an ambulance at any time.

Evaluation:

This policy was reviewed in May 2019 and will be next reviewed in June 2022

MEDICATION REQUEST FORM

DATE:

PARENT's NAME:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:
(Business Hours)

Dear Principal,

I request that my child _____ be administered the following medication
(Child's Name)
whilst at school, as prescribed by the child's medical practitioner.

NAME of MEDICATION:

DOSAGE (AMOUNT):

TIME:

I have sent the medication in the original container displaying the instructions provided by the pharmacist.

Yours sincerely

(Parent Signature)