

LORETO ABBEY SECONDARY SCHOOL, DALKEY



ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINE POLICY

'Our school is a caring, Christian community in which pupils have the opportunity to achieve academic excellence and to grow spiritually, emotionally, socially, creatively and physically in a healthy environment.'

1. Introduction

1.1 While the Board of Management has a duty to safeguard the health and safety of pupils when they are engaged in authorised school activities, this does not imply a duty upon teaching or administrative staff to personally undertake the administration of medication.

1.2 The Board of Management requests parents to ensure that staff members are made aware in writing of any medical condition suffered by their child. This information should be provided at enrolment or at the development of any medical conditions at a later date.

1.3 Medication in this policy refers to medicines, tablets and sprays administered by mouth and automatic injection devices.

1.4 No medication will be supplied by the school to a student.

1.5 Reception is the location for the storage of student medicine provided by parents, as outlined in this policy.

2. Policy Content

2.1 Procedure to be followed by parents who require the administration of medication for their children

- The parent/guardian should write to the Board of Management requesting the Board to authorise staff members to administer the medication or to monitor self-administration of the medication.
- Parents are required to provide written instructions of the procedure to be followed in the administration and storing of the medication.
- Parents are responsible for ensuring that the medication is delivered to the school and handed over to a responsible adult and for ensuring that an adequate supply is available that is within the correct date.
- In some cases, it may be appropriate for the student to carry her own medication. Parents are responsible for ensuring that the school is aware of this and that their daughter follows the correct medical instructions for their use. The student must inform a staff member immediately, in the case of a difficulty, a loss or damage to the medication.
- Parents are further required to indemnify the Board and authorised members of staff in respect of any liability that may arise regarding the administration of prescribed medicines in school. The Board will inform the school's insurers accordingly.(See Appendix 1)
- Changes in prescribed medication (or dosage) should be notified immediately to the school with clear written instructions of the procedure to be followed in storing and administering the new medication.
- Where children are suffering from life threatening conditions, parents should outline clearly in writing, what should and what should not be done in a particular emergency situation, with particular reference to what may be a risk to the child.
- Parents are required to provide a telephone number where they may be contacted in the event of an emergency arising.

3. Procedures to be followed by the Board of Management

- The Board, having considered the matter, may authorise staff members to administer medication to a pupil or to monitor the self-administration by a pupil.
- The Board will ensure that the authorised persons are properly instructed in how to administer the medicine.
- The Board shall seek an indemnity from parents in respect of liability that may arise regarding the administration of the medicine.
- The Board shall inform the school insurers accordingly.
- The Board shall make arrangements for the safe storage of medication and procedures for the administration of medication in the event of the authorised staff member's absence.

- A list of students requiring medication is compiled annually and reported to the BOM.

4. Responsibilities of Staff Members

- No staff member can be required to administer medication to a pupil.
- Any staff member who is willing to administer medicines should do so under strictly controlled guidelines in the belief that the administration is safe.
- Written instructions on the administration of the medication must be provided.
- Medication must not be administered without the specific authorisation of the Board of Management.
- In administering medication to pupils, staff members will exercise the standard of care of a reasonable and prudent parent.
- A written record of the date and time of administration will be kept.
- In emergency situations, staff should do no more than is obviously necessary and appropriate to relieve extreme distress or prevent further and otherwise irreparable harm. Qualified medical treatment should be secured in emergencies at the earliest opportunity.
- Parents should be contacted should any questions or emergencies arise.

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management of Loreto Abbey Secondary School, Dalkey on December 14th 2022.

Signed: 

Date: 14th December 2022

Chairperson

Date of Review: December 2025



Appendix 1

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINES IN SCHOOLS INDEMNITY

THIS INDEMNITY, made the _____ day of _____ month 20__ BETWEEN

Lawful parent(s)/guardian(s) of _____, (hereinafter called 'the parents') of the One Part AND _____ for and on behalf of the Board of Management of Loreto Abbey Dalkey, situated at Loreto Avenue, Harbour Road in the County of Dublin (hereinafter called 'the Board') of the Other Part.

WHEREAS:

1. The parents are respectively the lawful father, mother or guardian(s) of _____, a student of the above school.
2. The student suffers on an ongoing basis from the condition known as _____.
3. The student may, while attending the said school, require, in emergency circumstances, the administration of medication, viz. _____.
4. The parents have agreed that the said medication may, in emergency circumstances, be administered by the said student's teacher and/or such other member of staff of the said school as may be designated from time to time by the Board.

NOW IT IS HEREBY AGREED by and between the parties hereto as follows:

In consideration of the Board entering into the within Agreement, the parent(s)/guardian(s), as the lawful father/mother/guardian(s) respectively of the said pupil HEREBY AGREE to indemnify and keep indemnified the Board, its servants and agents including, without prejudice to the generality, the said student's teacher and/or the Principal of the said school from and against all claims, both present and future, arising from the administration or failure to administer the said medicines.

Signed:-----
Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

Signed:-----
Principal/Deputy Principal