



Little Forest Folk

Medication Policy

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Reviewed by: Xiao Flynn

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Little Forest Folk is dedicated to providing the best possible service for parents and children. Although staff working with children are not legally obliged to administer medication, our staff team recognises that not to offer this service would be detrimental to parents and children. However, we must ask for parents / carers full cooperation in ensuring that our policy and procedures are adhered to and staff are not put in a difficult position.

Following the change to legislation from 1st September 2021 Little Forest Folk will administer non-prescribed medication. However, non- prescribed medication will only be administered if:

- The medication is suitable for the condition that the child is suffering from
- The medication is suitable for the age of the child
- The first dose of the medication has been administered at home in case of an allergic reaction
- The number of days or doses of the medication has not been exceeded

Please note: We believe that any child who requires temperature reducing medication is unlikely to be well enough to attend Nursery and so we will ask that the child be kept at home until their temperature has reduced. We will not administer temperature reducing medication at Nursery.

Aim

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that any and all medication administered to children has been authorised by the child's parent / carer. It is also to ensure that Little Forest Folk staff correctly administer medication, that medication is appropriately stored, and that accurate records of permissions and administration are kept.

Only qualified childcare practitioners will be allowed to administer medication.

Method

It is the overall responsibility of the Manager to ensure that there is written parental/carer permission to administer prescribed and non- prescribed medication to children during the session.

It is the responsibility of the practitioners to ensure that parents/carers have completed a medication form prior to any medication being administered and a signature is obtained giving authorisation.

The medicine administration form must be signed again by the parent or carer when they are collecting their child.



There will be no medication stored at the nursery overnight. All medication will be returned to parents each day.

Medication Policy

The following guidance must be followed:

- Staff members will not administer the first dose of medicine to the child. Parents should have given their child one dose to ensure no allergic reaction is caused by administering the medication. This will be complied with as per the parents / carers declaration signed on the Medication Consent form;
- Where members of staff are required to administer medication to a child, whether short term or long term, the parent / carer must first complete and sign a Medication Consent form. This gives consent for the administration of medication. A new entry should be completed where there is change in circumstances;
- Clear instructions for administration, including the dosage must be on the medication bottle;
- Staff members must check that the medication is suitable for the age of the child.
- Staff can only administer medication for the length of time stated on the bottle, staff will not administer medication beyond this time-scale unless we have a Doctor's letter;
- Staff will record when medication comes into the nursery, detailing the name of medication, child's name, date when the medication was given to the setting and date returned home.
- The Medication Consent form will detail the name of the qualified practitioner who administered the medication. Another staff member will sign as a witness to the administration of the medication;
- Before medicine is administered, the designated member of staff will check the Medication Consent form for any changes;
- The Medication Consent form should be completed each time the child receives their medication, this form must be completed and signed by the person administering the prescribed medication, witness and be countersigned by the parent or carer when they collect their child;
- Medicines kept at indoor sites will be stored in the fridge in a plastic lidded box, clearly named and dated;
- Medication kept at the Forest setting will be kept in a cooler bag and kept in the locked box.
- If any controlled drugs are brought into the nursery to be administered to the child, staff must advise the parent to see the management team who will inform parents that they must return to the nursery to administer. Under no circumstances is the medication stored in the nursery or administered by staff;



- At no time should the Medication Consent form be completed in pencil. Rather, it must be in pen. Parents must both sign and print their names. The signature of the parent / carer must be clearly seen at the bottom of the Medication Consent form;
- The Medication Consent form will clearly state why the child is on the medication;
- Medication must be stored in sealed containers in the fridge or cupboard, as per directions on the Medication Consent form;
- Temperatures for storing medication, particularly Epi-pens and inhalers will be adhered to and parents will be asked to supply appropriate storage.
- No medication will be left in children's bags.

In the unlikely event that we feel a child would benefit from medical attention we reserve the right to refuse nursery care until the child is seen by a medical practitioner.

Administering Medicine

Before giving any medication, staff must:

- refer to the Medication Consent Form and read the information leaflet that accompanies the medicine;
- wash their hands;
- Wear disposable gloves and also an apron if appropriate.
- Have a staff witness to confirm the child's identity and prescribed medication belonging to them.

When giving the medication staff must:

- carefully follow the instructions;
- Offer the child a drink with the medication if appropriate.
- Have a staff witness to countersign the medication form.

If a child spits out their medication or refuses to take it the parents will be contacted for advice. If we are unable to contact the parents, we will seek advice from the GP or pharmacist. A note will be made on the Medication Consent form.

Auditing Medication

- Medication forms will be checked daily by the management team who will sign forms.
- All medication forms will be easily accessed by being stored in the designated Medication form folder;

- Management will audit all prescribed medications brought in and out of the nursery. Medications MUST be returned home daily. However, in the case of Epi-pens, parents can leave one to be stored at the nursery if they also have others for home.

Individual Health Care Plans

- Children with specific ongoing health care needs such as anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes etc. will need to complete an ongoing medication form prior to commencing care at Little Forest Folk.
- A meeting between management and the child's family is arranged prior to commencing care to discuss the individual child's needs and any prescribed medication/treatment the child may require.
- Any relevant risk assessments are completed.
- This care plan is reviewed biannually.

Storage of Medicines

The manager and staff must ensure that all medications are inaccessible to children, securely stored out of children's reach in either a locked box or locked cabinet, in their original containers and clearly labelled with their contents and the child's name. It should be noted that specific medications have storage implications for the setting:

- **Controlled Drugs:** We will not store any controlled drugs within the nursery at any time. If a child requires administration of a controlled drug, then the parent must come to the nursery to administer when required;
- **Pain medications:** All medications will be kept out of the children's reach in either a locked box or a locked cabinet. Each child's medication will be kept in the "medication" container with the child's name on the bottle / box.
- **Allergy Medication/Antihistamines:** These will be kept out of the children's reach and stored in the "medication" container with the child's name on the bottle / medication box and kept in a locked box or locked cabinet. All details should be recorded on our Medication Consent form. This medication will be returned home daily.
- **Epi-pens:** Where a child requires an epi-pen for allergic reactions, the parent must sign in 2 epi-pens using the authorised medication form. This is to ensure that if their first epi-pen misfires or does not work that there is a back -up Epi-pen. All Epi-pens must have the child's name on them and must not have gone past the expiry date. The child is not allowed to be left at the setting without their epi-pens. Only members of staff who are trained to administer this medication will be allowed to do so: whilst Little Forest Folk aspires that all members of staff receive the required training, parents are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure that their children's medication requirements are up to date and that Little Forest Folk is in turn kept up to date.
- **Asthma Medications:** The child should have an inhaler with them, to be brought into the nursery each day the child attends. Each child's inhaler must be prescribed for that child and will be kept



in our “medication” container, stored in a locked box or locked cabinet, all details should be recorded on our medication record form.

- **Nappy Cream:** 100% Aloe Vera Gel will be applied for treating nappy rash and this will be supplied by the nursery. If a parent wishes for a specific nappy rash cream to be used, then this must be suitable for the child and the child must have had this used at home for the first time in case there is a reaction to the cream. A medication form will need to be completed for it to be applied.
- **Sun Cream:** On warmer days we request that parents apply factor 50+ sun cream to their child before they arrive at nursery. Practitioners will re-apply factor 50+ sun cream as required during the day which will be supplied by Little Forest Folk. If a parent wishes for a specific sun cream to be applied then this must be supplied in a small, clear sealable plastic bag and the bottle must be clearly marked with the child’s name. Please note that we will not apply cream that has not been used by the child before in case the child has a reaction.
- **Insect Repellent:** There may be occasions when we need to apply insect repellent to help prevent children from being bitten by insects. Little Forest Folk will supply and administer Deet free, 100% natural insect repellent.
- **Sting and Bite Treatment:** if a child is bitten or stung by an insect then practitioners will administer aloe vera as a relief which will be supplied by Little Forest Folk.



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Medication Consent form

Date:

Child's name							
Child's Date of Birth							
Medication (full name)							
Medication expiry							
Reason for Medication							
Last Dosage given (time/date/dose)							
Dosage to be given (please supply a measured medicine spoon / syringe)						Prescribed / Non prescribed	
Duration of medication (prescribed medication only)							
I consent Little Forest Folk to administer the above medication to my child at the dosage rate provided (please tick)							
I confirm that the medicine supplied is in the original container							
I confirm that my child has already had at least one dose of this medication and has not suffered any adverse / unwanted reactions							
Parent / carer full name							
Parent / carer signature							
Staff to check: • Medicine is in original bottle • Medicine is labeled with child's name, date of birth, dosage and date if prescribed • Medication must only be administered by a member of staff approved by the Manager and must be witnessed.							
Parent / carer to complete RED. Staff to complete BLACK upon administration							
Parent's Consent	Date Consent	Time to be given	Date & Time	Dosage Given	Name sign	witness sign	Parent's Signature



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