



DIVISION: PROGRAMS

PROG-301

POLICY NAME

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATIONS, MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS AND CHRONIC CARE

POLICY STATEMENT

The Board of the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District (“District”) recognizes that the administration of prescribed medications, medical interventions and chronic care is the primary responsibility of the parent/guardian. However, the Board authorizes the administration of medications and medical interventions by school staff if, in the opinion of a practicing physician, the medication or intervention is necessary for the student to attend school. This applies only to medications and interventions that can be safely administered by a lay person with no or limited training. District staff will collaborate and work with parents/guardians and appropriate health professionals to maintain a student in school in a safe manner.

BACKGROUND

In the course of a school day students may require various supports and medical interventions, ranging from the administration of medications to the administration of First Aid and other emergency procedures, to support for students with exceptionalities who require chronic care. The Board promotes a philosophy of inclusive education and provides school-based services for students with exceptionalities in accordance with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development *Service Delivery Model for Students with Exceptionalities*. Students with exceptionalities may require a range of services, depending on their needs and level of functioning.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all school and district staff.

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DEFINITIONS

EXCEPTIONALITY

Exceptionalities recognized by the DEECD include acquired brain injury, developmental delay, gifted and talented, hearing loss, medical conditions, mental illness/mental health, neurodevelopmental and related disorders, intellectual disability, specific learning disorder, physical disability, speech and language disorder and vision loss.

EMERGENCY MEDICATION

Medication that is necessary for a specific condition or situation (e.g., auto-injector for anaphylactic reaction).

LONG-TERM MEDICATION

Medication that is necessary on an ongoing basis (e.g., Ritalin)

SHORT-TERM MEDICATION

Medication that is necessary for a clearly specified period of time (e.g., antibiotics).

NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION

Medication that is available without a physician's prescription (e.g., cough syrups; decongestants; and analgesics such as acetaminophen, ASA, ibuprofen).

CHRONIC CARE

For the purposes of this policy chronic care refers to the provision of services such as positioning, assistance with mobility, feeding, toileting and the personal care needs of physically disabled students.

GOOD SAMARITAN LAW

A legal principle that prevents a rescuer who has voluntarily helped a victim in distress from being sued successfully for 'wrongdoing'. Its purpose is to keep people from being reluctant to help a stranger in need for fear of legal repercussions if they make a mistake in treatment.

POLICY DIRECTIVES

1. The administration of medications to a student is primarily the responsibility of the parent/guardian. The Board authorizes the administration of medications to students by staff when the medications are prescribed by a physician and must be taken during the school day/school-sponsored activities.
 2. The school administrator will designate an appropriate staff person to administer medications.
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3. The school administrator must ensure that medications are securely stored, and that the administration to students is documented, in accordance with the Administrative Procedures/Regulations outlined for this Policy.
4. The provision of chronic care for individual students is primarily the responsibility of the parent/guardian. However, teachers and/or student assistants may, under reasonable and normal circumstances, be responsible for the chronic care of students.
5. School administrators will be responsible for arranging appropriate training for staff, in consultation with parents/guardians, regarding medical interventions and care deemed necessary by a physician in order for a student to attend school.
6. School administrators will consult as necessary with *Student Support Services* and appropriate health professionals regarding training for, and the performance of, medical interventions, chronic and emergency care.
7. The District will arrange for First Aid and CPR training as necessary for school and district staff, in accordance with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.
8. School administrators must ensure that First Aid kits are maintained in schools.
9. District personnel are expected to assist student(s) in an emergency situation, and arrange for emergency intervention by a person trained in First Aid or by medical personnel, where necessary. When an accident, injury or other emergency involving student(s) occurs, an employee who is present shall stay with the student(s) and ensure that First Aid and medical attention, if necessary, is provided as quickly as possible.

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