



At Stretton Lodge, we promote the good health of children attending nursery and take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection (see Sickness and Illness and Infection Control policies).

Covid-19 amendment

Parents must contact us to provide details of any medication to be given prior to the start of the session. This should be done by email, phone or via Tapestry to allow staff to prepare forms in advance and minimise face to face contact.

We follow strict guidelines when dealing with medication of any kind in the nursery and these are set out below.

Prescription Medication

- Prescription medicine will only be given to the person named on the bottle for the dosage stated
- Medicines must be in their original containers and displaying the pharmacy label
- Those with parental responsibility for any child requiring prescription medication should hand over the medication to the most appropriate member of staff who will then note the details of the administration on the Medication Form.
- Those with parental responsibility must give prior written permission for the administration of each and every medication. However, we will accept written permission once for a whole course of medication or for the ongoing use of a particular medication under the following circumstances:
 1. The written permission is only acceptable for that brand name of medication and cannot be used for similar types of medication, e.g. if the course of antibiotics changes, a new form will need to be completed
 2. The dosage on the written permission is the only dosage that will be administered. We will not give a different dose unless a new form is completed
 3. Parents must notify us IMMEDIATELY if the child's circumstances change, e.g. a dose has been given at home, or a change in strength/dose needs to be given.



4. Long term medication such as inhalers will need to be reviewed by the key person and parent/carer if there are any changes to dosage or condition or every three months.
- The nursery will not administer a dosage that exceeds the recommended dose on the instructions unless accompanied by a doctor's letter
 - The parent should be asked when the child has last been given the medication before coming to nursery and this information is recorded on the medication form. Similarly, when being collected, the parent/carer must be given precise details of the times and dosage given throughout the day. The parent's signature must be obtained at both times
 - At the time of administering the medicine, a senior member of staff will ask the child to take the medicine, or offer it in a manner acceptable to the child at the prescribed time and in the prescribed form.
 - If the child refuses to take the medication parents will be contacted at the earliest opportunity and a note will be made on the form
 - Medication will be administered by a senior member of staff and witnessed by a second person. If it is deemed more appropriate the child's key person will administer the medication and will be witnessed by a senior member of staff.

Non-prescription medication (these will not usually be administrated)

- The nursery will not administer any medication that has not been prescribed for the child with the exception of paracetamol to reduce a temperature (please see Administering of Paracetamol) and non-prescription cream for skin conditions.
- Before accepting the medication from the parent, the member of staff will check the label for details including name, date, dosage and storage instructions. The nursery will not accept any medication that does not contain this information.
- For any non-prescription cream for skin conditions e.g. E45, prior written permission will be obtained from the parent who will be required to provide the cream ensuring that it is clearly labelled with the child's name.
- The nursery will only administer non-prescription medication for a short initial period, dependant on the medication or the condition of the child. After this time, medical attention should be sought



- If the nursery feels the child would benefit from medical attention rather than non-prescription medication, we reserve the right to refuse nursery care until the child is seen by a medical practitioner

Administering of Paracetamol

- On registration, parents will be asked if they would like to complete the medication consent for liquid paracetamol.
- If a child experiences a high temperature whilst at nursery, staff will attempt to cool the child naturally and will continue to monitor their temperature
- If staff cannot reduce the child's temperature they will contact parents and inform them of their child's condition.
- On parent's consent and prior completion of consent at registration staff will administer the liquid paracetamol. If we are unable to contact parents or any of the emergency contacts and the child has been in nursery for over 4 hours (i.e. the specified length of time between doses) we will administer the liquid paracetamol if we feel it is in the interests of the child.
- A child must not attend nursery if they are reliant on paracetamol to keep their temperature within normal limits.
- Parents must inform the nursery if the child has been administered any medication prior to arriving at nursery.
- The dosage given will follow the guidelines provided on the medication unless a smaller dosage has been requested by parents or is deemed more appropriate based on the child's size and weight.
- Staff will record any medication administered
- Once liquid paracetamol has been administered parents will be required to collect their child to monitor at home.
- If the child experiences no further episodes of a high temperature and can maintain a 'normal' temperature without reliance of paracetamol, they will be allowed to return to nursery the following day.



Injections, pessaries, suppositories

As the administration of injections, pessaries and suppositories represents intrusive nursing, they should not be administered by any member of staff unless appropriate medical training is given to each member of staff caring for this child and appropriate medical consent has been provided by the parent/carer.

Storage

All medication for children must have the child's name clearly written on the original container and kept in a closed medication box, which is out of reach of all children. Any antibiotics requiring refrigeration must be kept in the relevant fridge in a closed medication box inaccessible to children. Emergency medication, such as inhalers and EpiPens, will be kept within easy reach of staff in case of an immediate need, but will remain out of children's reach. **Parents must not leave any medication including inhalers in a child's bag.**

Staff Medication

Staff must store any medication they are taking in their locker or in the fridge within the Staff Room kitchen. The medication must be clearly labelled and staff must inform the Nursery manager if the medication may cause them any side effects which could impact on their ability to fulfil their role and care for the wellbeing of the children.