

# Belmont Cheveley Park Primary School



## Medicines in School

Last updated: November 2023

Review date: September 2024



## **School-held medicines**

We keep some medicines in school to help with pain, discomfort or to help with bites or stings. For example, if your child develops dental pain or a headache or is stung by a wasp or a nettle within the day.

These are all medicines that can be bought from a shop or pharmacy and may be kept in homes. With permission, we can give children these medicines to help them in school, on a trip or a residential.

Trained staff can administer home remedies/non-prescribed medication; parents/carers will be required to give consent for this via Arbor annually. Prior to any medication being given, staff will contact parents/carers to ask permission for the medication to be administered at that point (this is to ensure timely doses). Staff administering the medication will sign a form which the parent/carer will also be asked to sign when collecting your child from school.

We will not administer any medicine where the first dose has not been administered at home by the parent/carer – this is to monitor side effects etc.

We keep:

	Medicine
1	Pain relief (e.g. Calpol)
2	Bite and sting cream
3	Antihistamines (cetirizine)

## **Defibrillators**

Cardiac arrest is when the heart stops beating suddenly and can happen to people of any age and without warning. If this does happen, quick action (in the form of early CPR and defibrillation) can help save lives. A defibrillator is a machine used to give an electric shock to restart a patient's heart when they are in cardiac arrest. Modern defibrillators are easy to use and safe. Schools have access to a defibrillator as part of their first-aid equipment and the local NHS ambulance service are aware of its location.

## **Anaphylaxis**

In the UK, 17% of fatal allergic reactions in school-aged children happen while at school. We are therefore now allowed to keep in school a medicine called adrenaline. It comes as a device called an auto-injector (AAI).

- **For children with an adrenaline auto-injector prescribed**

This school medicine can be given in an emergency to children who already have an adrenaline auto-injector for severe allergic reactions, but their own device is not available or not working (e.g. because it is broken, or out-of-date). The emergency is either when the child is showing signs of anaphylaxis or they are at risk of anaphylaxis.

- **For children who do not have adrenaline prescribed**

Very occasionally a child who has not had a severe allergic reaction before can develop one in school. Emergency services (999) will be contacted, and they will be told that the school keeps an adrenaline auto-injector for use in an emergency. They will advise us as to whether we can give it to your child.

## **Emergency Salbutamol Inhaler**

A salbutamol inhaler is a medicine used to help breathing. It is also known as a reliever inhaler. Terbutaline is the name of another medicine given as a reliever inhaler.

Schools are allowed to keep salbutamol inhalers for emergency use in children who are having difficulty breathing. It could save their life.

- **For children who have salbutamol or terbutaline inhaler prescribed**

The school salbutamol inhaler is for children who do not have their own inhaler available and who:

1. have been diagnosed with asthma, and given/prescribed a reliever inhaler (salbutamol or terbutaline)

2. OR who have been given/prescribed a reliever inhaler for another illness/condition

Salbutamol can be used instead of terbutaline in an emergency as they work in the same way to help breathing.

- **For children who do not have salbutamol or terbutaline inhaler prescribed**

The school salbutamol inhaler can also be given to children who are showing signs of a first asthma attack. Emergency services (999) will be contacted and they will be told that the school keeps a salbutamol inhaler for use in an emergency. They will advise us as to whether we can give it to your child

