

Medicines Policy

1st Place promotes the good health of the children, takes necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and takes appropriate action when they are ill.

General Principles

1st Place will, at all times, work in partnership with parents to ensure the safety and wellbeing of their children including those with long-term conditions such as epilepsy, asthma or sickle cell anaemia. We will also continue to support the children in our care when they are suffering from short-term illness, providing that they are considered able to cope with the nursery day and are not likely to infect other children or staff.

If a child has been vomiting, has had diarrhoea more than once, or is taking antibiotics, we ask that they be kept at home for the first 48 hours. We follow the Public Health England guidance on infection control in schools and childcare settings to exclude children from nursery while they are still infected.

1st Place medicine procedures are in line with recommendations from the Department of Health and the Department for Education.

1st Place staff will only;

- Administer medicines that are prescribed by a health care professional.
- Administer antibiotics after they have been given to the child by the parent/carer and remain at home for a minimum of 48 hours whilst they are in the infectious period.
- Administer medication for short or long-term illness such as asthma, sickle cell anaemia, eczema etc.
- Administer teething relief, over the counter medication or pain relief in consultation with the parent.

Administration of prescribed medicines:

1. All prescribed medicines must be stored in their original containers, clearly labeled with the child's name and the date. We will not give a dose prepared by the parents/carers at home.
2. Parents/carers must sign a consent form at the start of each course of medicine for staff to administer the prescribed medicines. A member of staff will administer the medicine with the Manager or another senior member of staff in attendance.
3. Medicines must be stored in the office or in the Medication Fridge.
4. Paracetamol can be administered at the Manager's discretion if a child presents with a very high temperature during the day. Parents/carers will be called to ask to inform or ask for permission and a medication form will be completed on the arrival of the parents/carers.
5. Before the medicine is given, another member of staff will check the child's name and dosage on the container.
6. The time the medicine should be given will be checked, recorded, and signed by both members of staff as soon as the medicine has been administered.
7. The parents/carers must sign the medicine form upon collection of their child.
8. Medicines only needing to be administered twice daily will be discouraged from being administered at the nursery.
9. The medicine will be administered to the child in such a way that affords them privacy. Staff will ensure that the child is in a settled and relaxed frame of mind whilst the medicine is being administered.
10. All medicine must be handed over to the parents/carers to take home at the end of each day.
11. Staff will ensure that they are familiar/trained in the administration of certain medication (e.g. nebulizers and inhalers for asthma, EpiPens etc.). Parents/carers will be asked to show staff how to use them to reduce any potential stress to the staff member and child.
12. All staff should read and follow care plans in place for children in line with directions given by health care professionals.