



Medication Policy

Background

There has been increasing concern in recent years about the extent to which teachers should become involved in administering various forms of medication to pupils / children. While teachers in Madrasah act "in loco parentis", there is no obligation to either administer medicines regularly or to supervise children taking them. Teachers generally do their utmost to make provision for children who have medical issues, but ultimately would not do so if this in any way jeopardized the safety and welfare of any child in their care.

Our Madrasah teachers will always be prepared to help when an accident or emergency arises, by contacting parents/guardians or by calling a doctor or ambulance.

The aim of this policy is to clarify areas of responsibility and to lay down procedures for administering medication to children.

Our policy on medication is as follows:

Part 1 – Short-term illnesses

Those with short term illnesses (flu, cold, temperature etc and other illnesses such as Chicken Pox) must not be sent to Madrasah until they have fully recovered. Thus, there will be no need to administer any type of medicine.

Part 2 – Long term illnesses

- a) Our Madrasah teachers have a professional and moral duty to safeguard the health and safety of pupils when they are authorised to be on the Madrasa premises (i.e. in their respective time / session). **This does not imply a duty** upon teachers to personally to undertake the administration of medication. Indeed, it is important that teachers do not take responsibility for administering any medication which, if administered incorrectly or for other reasons, could have a damaging effect on a child.
- b) Thus, our teachers are **not authorised** to administer any type of medicine (prescribed and non-prescribed) to any child. If parents deem it necessary that medicine needs to be administered during Madrasah hours, then parents need to come in and administer all such medication. Contact us to discuss this.

- c) So that terminally ill children can be included in the Madrasah, parents need to consult management so that appropriate arrangements can be made to either self-administer or for parents to come in and administer.
- d) The only exception to the above is the use of an EpiPen in an emergency. Parents must notify us of any allergies of this nature, and a plan of action will be agreed and put in place. The EpiPen must always be accessible, and clearly labelled with name, DOB etc.

Part 3 – Medication / inhalers etc left in the Madrasah

- e) Where parents insist and leave medication and other items in the Madrasah, then we cannot accept responsibility for this. In the event of an emergency, parents will be contacted, and our teachers will only do no more than is obviously necessary and appropriate to relieve extreme distress or prevent further harm (thus the teacher will supervise any inhalers etc being taken by the child but will not administer anything). Qualified medical treatment will be secured at the earliest opportunity.
- f) In line with the above point, parents must submit a type written letter clearly highlighting:
 - 1) ***Child's full name, Session and Level.***
 - 2) ***Child's DOB.***
 - 3) ***Details of the illness / allergy / condition etc.***
 - 4) ***Symptoms of this illness / allergy / condition etc.***
 - 5) ***Name of the medication. This must be clearly labelled with the child's full name.***
 - 6) ***How the child will administer, what adults need to be aware of.***
 - 7) ***Full names and contact details of parents / next of kin.***
- g) Parents with such arrangements are responsible to ensure the letter is updated regularly and all such medication is not out of date etc.

Part 4 – Miscellaneous

The Madrasah cannot be held responsible for any medication / inhalers etc left on the premises. Thus, if an item is lost / misplaced, parents need to ensure it is replaced.

Conclusion

The overall Madrasah policy is that no medication will be administered at any time and that we cannot be held responsible for this. Where medicine etc is left in the Madrasa, we will not administer it but simply supervise and if necessary, seek medical help.

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