

# Taking Medicines at School

## A questionnaire for PARENTS of children who need to take medicine at school

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. It should be filled in by a parent or guardian but you are welcome to discuss it with your child and to add their comments.

We are doing some research about how schools deal with medicines for children who need to take them during the school day. By filling in this questionnaire, you will be able to tell us about which of your child's medicines they need to take at school. We are interested in what kind of medicines children need to take at school and how children's medicines are dealt with at school. We are also interested in whether you think your child's school deals with their medicines well.

All your answers are confidential and will only be read by the team doing the research. We will put your answers together with answers from lots of other families and they will be summarised and shared with colleagues who work in the healthcare and education sectors.

## **ABOUT YOUR CHILD**

### **Question 1**

How old is your child?

### **Question 2**

Is your child a boy or a girl? (delete as appropriate)

Boy/Girl

### **Question 3**

Does your child attend school? (delete as appropriate)

Yes/No

If you have selected 'No' you do not need to answer any more questions. Thank you for taking part in this survey

### **Question 4**

What type of school is it?

- Primary School
- Primary School with a nursery
- Secondary School
- All through school (primary and secondary)
- A school exclusively for children with special needs

### **Question 5**

Does your child ever need to take one or more of their medicines at school?

Yes/No

If you have selected 'No' you do not need to answer any more questions. Thank you for taking part in this survey

### **Question 6**

Which specialty doctor(s) see your child at the hospital? Examples of specialties include neurology, endocrinology, gastroenterology. If you're not sure, just answer 'don't know'

### **ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S MEDICINES**

#### **Question 7**

At the moment, how many medicines does your child take on a regular basis?

#### **Question 8**

At the moment, how many medicines does your child take on an 'as needed' basis?

### **ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S MEDICINES AT SCHOOL**

#### **Question 9**

How many of these regular medicines do they need to take during the school day?

#### **Question 10**

How many of these 'when needed' medicines might they need to take during the school day?

#### **Question 11**

Which of these types of medicines do (or might) they need to take during the school day?

Please tick all that apply:

- Tablet
- Liquid oral medicine
- Liquid buccal medicine (given into the mouth but not swallowed)
- Inhaler
- Nebuliser
- Cream or ointment
- Injection
- Patch applied to their skin
- Rectal medicine (for example a suppository)
- Other (please specify)

### Question 12

How do you get your child's medicines ready to send to school?

- I send the entire bottle or packet of medicine each day and get it back at the end of the day
- I put some of the medicine into a separate container to send to school
- I put some of the medicine into a separate container to keep at home but send the pharmacy bottle or packet to school
- We have two separate pharmacy bottles/packets, one for home and one for school
- I do something else (please give details)

### Question 13

How do you send your child's medicines to school?

- I hand them in myself
- I give them to my child to hand in
- I send them with an escort/driver who takes my child to school
- Some other way (please give details)

### Question 14

Do you know who to contact at school about changes to your child's medicines?

Yes/No

If Yes, which of these people is it? (please tick all that apply)

- I don't tell anyone at school about my child's medicines
- Head Teacher
- Your child's class teacher or teaching assistant
- A named teacher or teaching assistant who is not your child's class teacher or teaching assistant
- A school nurse
- Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO)
- Someone else (please specify)

- I know their name but I don't know what their job is (you don't need to write their name here)

### **Question 15**

Do you know where your child's medicine(s) are stored at school?

Yes/No

If Yes, where? (please tick all that apply)

- Child's classroom
- First Aid/Nurse's Room
- Somewhere else (please specify)
- My child carries their own medicine with them
- In more than one place depending on which medicines (please provide details)

### **Question 16**

Do you know who gives your child their medicine(s) at school?

Yes/No

If Yes, which of these people is it? (please tick all that apply)

- Head Teacher
- Your child's class teacher or teaching assistant
- A named teacher or teaching assistant who is not your child's class teacher or teaching assistant
- A school nurse
- Someone else (please specify)
- I know their name but I don't know what their job is (you don't need to write their name here)
- My child takes their own medicine

### **Question 17**

Has your child ever had any of the following problems with their medicine(s) at school?  
(please tick all that apply)

- They couldn't get the medicine when they needed it
- They missed a dose
- They were given the wrong medicine
- They were given the wrong dose
- Their medicine was lost
- Their medicine ran out
- Their medicine was not stored in the correct way (for example it should have been in a fridge but it wasn't)
- They had side effects at school which stopped them joining in with activities
- Other (please specify)

**Question 18**

Use the scale below to indicate how you feel about how your child's medicines are dealt with at school. Place a tick under the answer you most agree with:

Very unsatisfied	Unsatisfied	Neither satisfied nor unsatisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied

Please give a reason for your answer:

This is the end of this questionnaire. Thank you for taking the time to complete it.

If you would like any further information about this research study please contact Professor Matthew Peak, Director of Research, Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust.

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If you have any questions about your child's medicines, please speak to your doctor or pharmacist.