**Medication Policy**

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This policy promotes the health of the children in our care, in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage safeguarding and welfare requirements.

Children who are taking medication may attend nursery provided they are not suffering from an infectious illness, are not displaying any signs or symptoms of illness and they are well enough to fully participate in nursery activities; this is at the manager’s discretion.

We do not supply any type of medicines and will only administer medication supplied by the parent for their individual child. In accordance with Ofsted’s guidance we will only give medication when asked to do so by a parent and if there is an accepted health reason to do so.

If your child needs to take medication prescribed by a doctor, please discuss this with the nursery manager. We will need you to sign an additional permission form. In some cases a child on antibiotics may be asked not to attend for 2-3 days in case they react to the medication and to prevent the spread of an infection to others. This particularly applies if the child has not had the antibiotics before.

All medicine given to administer must be in its original bottle/container and not decanted. It must have the manufacturers guidelines on it and if a prescription medication the details from the Doctor/pharmacy.

If your child has acute allergies and carries/needs an epipen, please discuss the matter with the nursery manager. We will need additional training to administer these forms of medication.

We will record all medication administered in our file and request a parental signature at the end of each day.

We will ensure that all medication given to me will be stored correctly and we will check that it is still within its expiry date before administering.

We appreciate that some children need non- prescription medicine on a regular basis, for example if they are teething. The Welfare Requirements stipulate that only prescription medication **should** be administered in a setting. We are, however willing to consider giving your child non-prescribed medication, such as cough mixture, Calpol or nurofen, teething gel etc, but only if you have signed a parental permission form for us to do so and if the child really needs it. We do not wish to see a child suffer unnecessarily. We would ask that parents contact their GP and arrange for these medications to be given on prescription if possible.

This permission form will be regularly reviewed to ensure that there are no changes, for example a child may no longer be able to take some medication or may need an additional form.

Even though you may have signed a form, we will still contact you by telephone to check that we can administer this medication. This is to protect your child, you and staff members. It is vital that you inform us of any medication you may have given your child before they arrive into our care. We need to know what medicine they have had, the dose and time given.

You will need to provide us with the non-prescription medicine and again it must be in its original packaging/bottle/tube. We will NOT administer medication if your child has not taken it previously in case of an allergic reaction.

If you have any concerns regarding medication please do not hesitate to discuss them with the nursery manager.

If a child refuses to take medicine, staff will make every attempt to encourage them but cannot force them. In this instance the parent will be contacted immediately to inform them.

Prescription medication can only be given to that particular child; we cannot administer to any other child, including a sibling, any medication that is prescribed for another named child.