

Scottsdale High School

Medication For Students



Ratified by School Association
October 2009

Tasmanian government schools have detailed guidelines which must be followed by all staff to ensure duty of care with medication for students at school.

PRESCRIBED MEDICATION

Only when absolutely necessary, should medication be prescribed for administration during school hours.

For this to happen, parental permission must be given in writing to allow school personnel to administer medication prescribed by a doctor; for example, methylphenidate (Ritalin or Attenta), dexamphetamine, antibiotics, insulin medication etc. Parents must provide the medication, which is stored in the school office, labelled with the student's name and details of dosage.

Detailed records are kept when medication is administered, including: date, time, medication name, quantity, staff member administering the drug and the student's signature.

In most cases, students should not carry and administer their own medication:

- a. in case the student has an allergic reaction and medical assistance is required, it is important that information can be passed on to paramedics about the time, type and quantity of medication taken; and
- b. in case the medication is not kept secure and can be accessed by other students.

An exception to students carrying medication, in selected cases, is that of inhalers for asthma, insulin for diabetics and epi-pens for severe allergic reactions. With written permission from a parent/legal guardian and with the approval of the school principal, the student may be responsible for the inhaler.

OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATION

The Department of Education believes that pain caused by fever, headache, earache, toothache, sprains and strains is considered symptoms of a condition that requires further investigation by a doctor or dentist.

If your child is temporarily taking over the counter medication (e.g. antihistamine) which is required during the school day, the medication should be secured at the school office for administration under the same guidelines as for prescribed medication. With the single exception of asthma inhalers (as outlined above in prescribed medication).

Under no circumstances should students be carrying over the counter medications or having them in their bags or lockers.