



CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 11TH NOVEMBER 2009

SUBJECT: MEDICINES IN SCHOOLS

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members, Management and Trade Union Safety Representatives of the position regarding administering medicines in schools. This follows on from discussion at the last Corporate Health and Safety Committee meeting.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 In terms of medicines in schools the Education/Leisure Health and Safety Section issue the National guidance on Medicines in Schools to all schools on an annual basis. This is supplemented with blank documents, which the schools can use to capture relevant information from parents, health professionals etc.
- 2.2 School admissions are screened to pick up any medical/special needs. This allows any relevant risk assessments and/or special arrangements to be put in place prior to a placement being offered. Advice and guidance is offered for children already in school or transferring between schools.
- 2.3 An arrangement is in place with the Local Health Board regarding the administering of medication to manage diabetes in schools.
- 2.4 A close relationship is maintained with epilepsy nurses and a variety of courses are offered to schools covering medical conditions.
- 2.5 Most children requiring medication at school are covered by the Disability Discrimination Act and as a result Education/Leisure work closely with the Local Health Board and the school to ensure that staff have received appropriate training and a care plan is in place.
- 2.6 In some cases children in mainstream schools have complex needs which border on care, support is offered by the Education/Leisure Health and Safety Staff, the Local Health Board and Trinity Fields. In these cases the decision to administer medicines rests with the Headteacher and Board of Governors. However full support is provided allowing the school to feel confident in supporting the child to lead as normal a possible life.
- 2.7 The approach adopted by the Education/Leisure Department is in line with the Welsh Assembly Government Policy on inclusion.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 That the contents of the report be noted.

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Consultees: Nigel Barnett, Director of Corporate Services

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