



Waikerie Children's Centre
16 Marks Tce
Waikerie SA 5330
Ph: 8541 2692 Fax: 8541 3126

MEDICATION POLICY

As much as possible, we encourage children to be given medication outside of centre hours, eg medication prescribe twice a day (morning and night). If medication needs to be administered to a child at the centre; a medication plan developed by health professionals, will be followed by staff. This may include an Asthma Care Plan.

Medication will only be administered by staff if:

- It is prescribed by a doctor and has the original label detailing the child's name and required dosage.
- It is an over the counter medicine/cream that has been authorised by the parent/guardian.
- The parent/guardian has completed and signed an authority to give medication form.
- Medication must be given directly to the staff member and not left in the child's locker.
- Paracetamol will not be administered unless prescribed by doctor on medication plan.
- Staff will follow the guidelines in the administration of medication ensuring compliance.

SOURCED FROM:

WCC Health Support Policy National Quality Standards Area 2 Department for Education
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Review due August 2022

MEDICATION

The Centre does not have facilities to look after sick children and if your child becomes unwell, we will inform you or your emergency contact, and we will isolate your child until he/she is collected.

As a general rule, children and adults who are unwell should not come to the Centre.

We realise from time to time that it will be necessary to give your child medication. Medicine must be brought in the original package with Pharmaceutical Instructions and handed directly to a staff member who will:

Check that expiry date is current.
Ensure that the child's name and correct dosage is clearly marked on the label.
Place the medicine in the fridge.

In each room there is a medication book. Details of all medication MUST be entered into the book and signed by the parent/guardian/caregiver. This information will be checked by a staff member to ensure all details are clear.

This procedure MUST be repeated on each and every day that medication is to be administered.

Medicine will only be administered by a staff member and will be checked by a second staff member prior to administration.

PANADOL

Our Centre prohibits the administration of Paracetamol to children by any staff member. This is a directive from the Department of Education. The attached information brochure will help you to understand the decision and to assist you to care for a sick child. Please refer to the Panadol policy -

Panadol (paracetamol) Information Brochure

Paracetamol Brands (Dymadon, Panadeine, Panadol, Panamax, Tylenol)

Paracetamol is used to treat mild pain and reduce fever. It is not known how it works, though it is thought to reduce the production of prostaglandins, the chemicals which increase the sensitivity of nerve endings to pain and regulate body temperature. After the administration of a normal dose of Paracetamol the following side effects can occur:

Mild Side Effects Include:

Mild skin rash
Nausea
Dyspepsia (indigestion, heart burn)
Allergic reactions
Blood disorders
Drowsiness
Fatigue

Severe Side Effects Include:

Severe skin rash
Difficulty in breathing
Fever
Hives
Swollen face, lips and tongue
Kidney damage (if taken for a

Overdose

Vomiting
Abdominal Pain
Sweating
Liver Damage-can be fatal

Advise for parents about fever when caring for your child:

Make the child comfortable; eg dress in light clothing
Give small, frequent drinks of clear fluid; eg water and diluted juice
Fever does not necessarily require treatment with medication. Finding the cause and treating it is more important.



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Paracetamol should be given only if the child is irritable, miserable or appears to be in pain (15mg/kg p.o. 4-hourly when required to maximum of 90mg/kg per day).

Giving paracetamol has not been shown to prevent febrile convulsions

Do not continue giving regular Paracetamol for >48 hours without having the child assessed by a doctor

Aspirin and other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID's) should be avoided.

Seek immediate medical attention if there is no improvement in 48 hours or if the child:

Looks sick: pale, lethargic and weak

Suffers severe headache, neck stiffness or light hurting eyes

Has breathing difficulties

Refuses to drink anything

Persistently vomits

Shows signs of drowsiness

Suffers pain

Source: Paediatric Handbook, 7th Ed. RCH, Blackwell Publishing, Melbourne