

**Policy Number**

6125

**Policy Title**

*Administering Medication To Students*

**Policy**

All medications that can be given outside school hours without adversely affecting the health of the student should not be administered at school during school hours. Reasonable efforts should be made by the parent or guardian to obtain physician permission to adjust the dosages of medication prescribed so it can be given at home before and/or after school hours.

Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-375.1, the Board of Education authorizes school employees to administer medication prescribed by a doctor upon a written request of the parents or guardians. School employees may administer non-prescription medication upon written request of the parents or guardians if prescribed by a doctor for use during school hours. Each principal will designate the person(s) responsible for giving medication at his/her school. The person(s) will receive annual training in safe, accurate medication administration procedures with the school nurse.

Only school personnel, parents, or guardians will be allowed to administer medicine to the student. Students are prohibited from sharing medication with other students. Self-medication is allowed in accordance with Section 5 of this policy.

All school plans must conform to the following:

1. The health and welfare of the student must be of paramount concern in all decisions regarding the administration of medicine. Only drugs clearly prescribed or intended for the student may be administered by school personnel. If school personnel have concerns regarding the appropriateness of a drug or dosage for a student, a confirmation should be obtained from the student's medical provider or another medical provider prior to administering the medicine or allowing a student to self-administer a medicine.
2. Students with special needs will be afforded all rights provided by federal and state law as enumerated in the Procedures Governing Programs and Services for Children with Special Needs. Students with disabilities will also be accorded all rights provided by anti-discrimination laws, including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.
3. No student can possess, use or transmit any drug or counterfeit drug prohibited by Board of Education policy 4325, Narcotics, Alcoholic Beverages, and Stimulant Drugs.

4.
  - A. Medication shall be dispensed from a central location designated by the principal of each school. It is the responsibility of the principal or designee to see that medications are kept locked in a central secure location with the exception of medications requiring refrigeration.
  - B. No teacher, assistant teacher, or volunteer shall administer any prescription medication within the classroom setting except in the case of self-contained exceptional children's classrooms where it would be inappropriate to send students to the designated central location or in individual cases in regular classrooms where the principal and the teacher agree that a specific student would be better served by classroom administration of medication. In cases where classroom administration is approved, there shall be a locked storage facility within the classroom and appropriate record keeping shall be maintained.
5.
  - A. A student with diabetes, asthma, or a student subject to anaphylactic reactions, or both, may possess and self-administer asthma or another prescribed medication on school property during the school day, at school sponsored activities, or while in transit to or from site of school sponsored activities as provided by N.C.Gen.Stat. § 115C-375.2 and this policy and procedures.
  - B. If a student uses medication prescribed in a manner other than as prescribed, or shares the medication with other students, the school may impose disciplinary action according to the discipline policy against the student, but may not limit or restrict the student's immediate access to the medication.
  - C. The storage of self-administered medications is determined by the principal and is based on the nature of the medication, age of the child, and the child's ability to maintain safe use, including keeping the medicine on themselves.
  - D. In cases when students do self-administer medication during the school day, Ashe County Schools are not liable for an injury arising from the student's possession and self administration of medication.
6. Although efforts should be made not to disrupt instructional time, a parent has the right to administer medicines to his or her child at any time while the child is on school property.
7. Written information maintained by the school or school personnel regarding a student's medicinal and health needs is confidential. Parents and students must be accorded all rights provided by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and state confidentiality laws. Any employee who violates the confidentiality of the records may be subject to disciplinary action.
8. When medication is to be administered during school hours, school personnel shall communicate with the student's parent or guardian about its administration.

at school and explain this policy and it's procedures for the administration of medication at school.

Legal References: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.; Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12101; Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794; G.S. 115C-36, -307(c).

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 1310/4002), Narcotics, Alcoholic Beverages and Stimulant Drugs (policy 4325)