

The provider must promote the good health of the children, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action when they are ill.

Specific legal requirements

Medicines

Providers must implement an effective policy on administering medicines. The policy must include effective management systems to support individual children with medical needs.

Providers must keep written records of all medicines administered to children, and inform parents.

Providers must obtain prior written permission for each and every medicine from parents before any medication is given.

Statutory guidance to which providers should have regard

Providers should ensure that they have sufficient information about the medical condition of any child with long-term medical needs.

Providers should ask parents about the medicines that their child needs to take and provide details of any changes to the prescription or the support required. If the administration of prescription medicines requires technical/medical knowledge then individual training should be provided for staff from a qualified health professional. Training should be specific to the individual child concerned.

Medicines should not usually be administered unless they have been prescribed for that child by a doctor, dentist, nurse or pharmacist. Non-prescription medication e.g. pain and fever relief or teething gel may be administered, but only with the prior written consent of the parent and only when there is a health reason to do so. A child under 16 should never be given medicines containing aspirin unless it has been prescribed for that child by a doctor. It is for the provider to arrange who should administer medicines, either on a voluntary basis or as part of a contract of employment.

Medicines should be stored strictly in accordance with product instructions and in the original container in which dispensed. They should include prescriber's instructions for administration.

Specific legal requirements

Illnesses and injuries

Registered providers must notify Ofsted of any of the above events and of any serious accident, illness or injury to, or death of, any child whilst in their care, and of the action taken in respect of it. Notification must be made as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any event within 14 days of the incident occurring. A registered provider who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with this requirement, commits an offence.

Providers must notify local child protection agencies of any serious accident or injury to, or the death of, any child whilst in their care and act on any advice given.

At least one person who has a current paediatric first aid certificate must be on the premises at all times when children are present. There must be at least one person on outings who has a current paediatric first aid certificate. First aid training must be approved by the local authority and consistent with guidance set out in the *Practice Guidance for the Early Years Foundation Stage*.

Providers must have a first aid box with appropriate content to meet the needs of children.

Providers must keep a record of accidents and first aid treatment. Providers must inform parents of any accidents or injuries sustained by the child whilst in the care of the providers and of any first aid treatment that was given.

Providers must discuss with parents the procedure for children who are ill or infectious.