



**Building Excellence  
Health Services**

### Questions and Answers Regarding Medication

**Q. Why should parents bring student's medication to school?**

A. The Baldwin County School System does not want to place any child in a situation where they may be confronted for drugs. Some medications have a street value. When the parents bring the medication, this ensures no other child will tamper with the medication and decreases the potential for abuse.

**Q. Why can't my child keep his/her medication?**

A. To protect all children from taking medication belonging to another child, no child may carry their own medication at school, unless they have been authorized by the physician, parent, and nurse to self-medicate.

**Q. Why can't I write on my child's prescription bottle?**

A. Prescription bottles can get smeared and very difficult to read. It is never a good practice to write on a prescription bottle. This practice is also unsafe and may interfere or obstruct the ability to read the prescriber's original orders listed on the prescription bottle (i.e., student's name, prescriber's name, name of medication, strength, dosage, time interval, route, and date of drug's discontinuation when applicable).

**Q. Why can't the school provide and give medication for minor illness or pain?**

A. Board of Nursing specifically prohibits the nurse from stocking medication.

**Q. What is the policy on herbal medications and food supplements?**

A. Food supplements, natural substances and herbs are not without potential harm, including life-threatening conditions. Herbal products and dietary supplements have not been subject to the scrutiny of the Food and Drug administration (FDA) and in the United States, as in most countries, dosage and purity have not been regulated for these products. School personnel should not give any substance that could be construed as a drug or medication, including natural remedies, herbs, and nutritional supplements, without the explicit order of an authorized prescriber, parent authorization, verification that the product is safe to administer to children in the prescribed dosage, and reasonable information regarding therapeutic and untoward effects.

**Q. Can siblings share over-the-counter medications?**

A. Siblings can share over-the-counter medications; however, we require a parent/provider authorization form for each child. Certain medications cannot be shared when students are attending field trips.

**Q. What is the policy on products containing aspirin?**

A. Due to the increased incidence of Reyes' Syndrome in children, the school nurse will not give aspirin or products containing aspirin without a physician's order.

Consult your school nurse if you have additional questions.