

Student's Responsibility

Students must not deliver medications to the school.

Students must have a signed order/authorization form with the signature of a licensed prescriber and parent/guardian, in order to have permission to self-medicate and carry medications (i.e., Epi-pen, asthma inhaler, insulin).

Students who have met the criteria to self-medicate will be able to identify and select the appropriate medication, know the frequency and purpose of the medication ordered, and follow the school self-administration procedures (e.g., safety and security precautions, proper healing).

Students will notify their teacher/school personnel at the onset of any distress or allergic reaction.

Questions and Answers Regarding Medications

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

A. The Selma City School System does not want to place any child in a situation where they may be confronted for drugs. Ritalin and other controlled drugs have a street value. When parents bring the medication, this ensures no other child will tamper with the medication and decrease 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 keep medication on them at school, unless they have been authorized to self-medicate by the school nurse and the physician.

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, as in the past?

A. Unlicensed school personnel should not be placed in the position of determining when or what medication should be provided for a student (i.e., that determination requires nursing judgment which is prohibited for an unlicensed person to perform). Under no circumstance should the school stock OTC medication (e.g., Tylenol, Pepto Bismol, antibiotic ointment) as this practice would violate the Board of Pharmacy regulations. Therefore, if students complain of illness or pain requiring medication, the parent/guardian will be contacted.

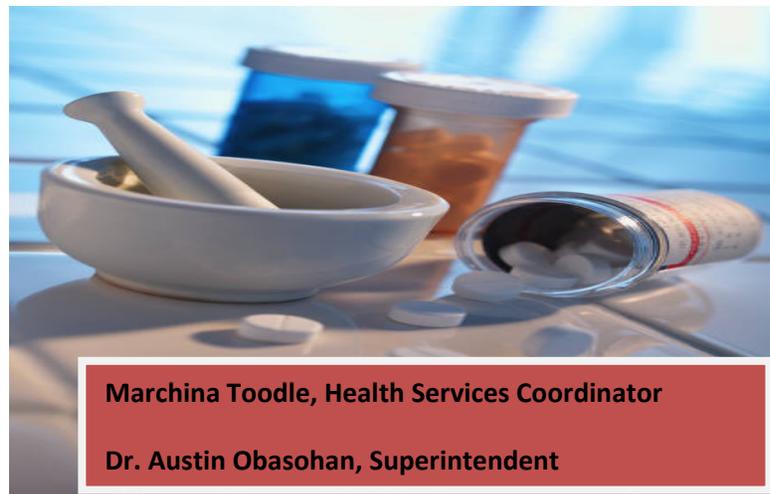
Medications at School **Guidelines**

Selma City School System

Health Services Department

2194 Broad Street

Selma, AL 36701



Marchina Toodle, Health Services Coordinator

Dr. Austin Obasohan, Superintendent

The goal of the school system regarding the administration of medication during school hours is to assist students in maintaining an optimal state of wellness.

Many communities and parents are not aware of the role of the school nurse. The role of the school nurse includes the “provision of acute, chronic, episodic, and emergency health care, assessment of students’ health status, identification of health problems that may affect educational achievement, development of health care plans, and administration of medications.” In addition, our health services section will provide health education and health counseling for students and families, advocate for students with disabilities, provide wellness programs for school employees, and are involved in program planning, development, management, and evaluation.

Selma City Schools Health Services Section is committed to ensure safe care to all students such that healthy lifestyles are promoted to foster academic achievement. Healthy students perform better.

Parent’s Responsibility

The parent/guardian should treat minor illness at home. For example, a student with a cold severe enough to require frequent medication should remain at home. Students with a temperature of 100° or more should remain at home.

Medication prescribed three times a day should be given at home just before leaving school, upon returning home in the afternoon, and at bedtime. The only exception to this schedule is medication that must be given before or with meals.

The parent/guardian and physician must sign the Alabama State Department of Education (SDE) **School Medication Prescriber/Parent Authorization form** granting permission for a child to receive prescription medication at school.

The parent/guardian must provide the school with a signed **Prescriber/Parent Authorization form** before any prescription medication can be given at school. This consent form authorizes school personnel to assist student with medication. If the medication order is changed during the school year (e.g., change in dosage), an additional prescriber authorization order is necessary.

The parent/guardian must provide the school with medication that is in a correctly labeled prescription bottle container (which includes the student’s name, prescriber’s name, name of medication, strength, dosage, time interval, route, and date of drug’s discontinuation when applicable). **Do not send medication to school in a zip lock bag or container other than the original container.** The medication will not be given and parent(s) will be contacted to pick up the medication, immediately.

The parent/guardian shall deliver all medication to the school nurse or other school personnel (i.e. medical assistance) as designated by the principal. The parent must pickup student’s unused medication (when the medicine is completed, out of date, or at the end of the school year). The **school nurse** will destroy medication not picked up by the parent/guardian.

The parent/guardian shall provide nonprescription medication in an original, unopened, sealed container of the drug, identifying the medication and the entire manufacture’s labeling plus the student’s name (written legibly on the container). Please provide medication, such as Tylenol, in the smallest container available.

School’s Responsibility

The school nurse identifies the appropriate individual who shall ensure the right student gets the right medication, in the right dosage, by the right route, at the right time, and has document appropriately, accurately, and timely.

Designated school personnel shall receive school-specific and student specific training from the delegating school nurse prior to assisting students with medication in a safe and private setting (i.e. an area free of distractions and disruptions).

The delegating school nurse must evaluate and approve all over-the-counter (OTC) medicines and parent instructions. The school nurse will determine if OTC medication is appropriate and whether a provider order is necessary. In 2004, the Alabama Board of Nursing issued a declaratory ruling stating that “a school nurse may administer OTC medications without a physician’s authorization.” Therefore, only parent/guardian signed permission is required for assistance with OTC medication.

In the event of an allergic reaction or an emergency involving medication, the school will handle the problem as any other medical emergency.

If your child has a “**chronic illness**” and taking prescription medication, both physician and parent/guardian signatures are required on the SDE School **Medication Prescriber/Parent Authorization form.**

The school personnel will administer sample medication provided from a physician only if it is in an original, unopened, sealed properly labeled container and according to written directions from the physician.

School personnel will refuse to administer medication when there is any discrepancy (i.e., label different from instruction or content, label is unclear or label torn). This medication will not be given until clarification is obtained.

The school personnel and parent/guardian must count all controlled drugs upon delivery and document the number of tablets or capsules delivered to the school.

Byrd Elementary	874-1620	Payne Elementary	874-1660
Cedar Park Elementary	874-1624	Sophia P. Kingston	874-1670
Clark Elementary	874-1630	CHAT Academy	874-1675
Edgewood Elementary	874-1640	Selma High School	874-1680
Knox Elementary	874-1650	Early College	876-9395
Meadowview Elementary	874-1655		

School Contact Numbers