**YOUR LETTERHEAD**

**DATE**

**REFERENCE (Patient identifiers)**

**Notification of request for non-prescription medication that does not need GP authorisation**

Dear, **SCHOOL NAME**

A request has recently been made to **SURGERY NAME** for a non-prescription medicine for the above named patient for use in a school / nursery. After taking advice from Doncaster Local Medical Committee we are unable to provide a prescription for over the counter medicines solely to give authorisation for use in a school / nursery.

**Background to our decision**

The Medicines and Healthcare Regulatory Agency (MHRA) licenses medicines and classifies them when appropriate as Over The Counter (OTC) to enable access to those medicines without recourse to a GP.  It is appropriate for OTC medicines to be given by parents in the home or nursery environment.  It is a misuse of GP time to take up an appointment just to acquire a prescription for a medicine, wholly to satisfy the needs of a nursery/school.

The Statutory Framework for the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) outlines the policy for administering medicines to children in nurseries/preschools 0-5 years

*“The provider* ***must*** *promote the good health of children attending the setting. They* ***must*** *have a procedure, discussed with parents and/or carers, for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill.*

*Medicine (both prescription and non-prescription) must only be administered to a child where written permission for that particular medicine has been obtained* ***from the child’s parent and/or carer.*** *Providers must keep a written record each time a medicine is administered to a child, and inform the child’s parents and/or carers on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable”.*

Statutory guidance for governing bodies of maintained schools and proprietors of academies in England: Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions - December 2015, states

*"No child under 16 should be given prescription or non-prescription medicines without their* ***parent’s*** *written consent – except in exceptional circumstances where the medicine has been prescribed to the child without the knowledge of the parents. In such cases, every effort should be made to encourage the child or young person to involve their parents while respecting their right to confidentiality.* ***Schools should set out the circumstances in which non-prescription medicines may be administered****“*

Yours Sincerely

**YOUR NAME**

**GMC NUMBER**

Cc Doncaster LMC