

Grand Isle Supervisory Union

5038 US Route 2 North Hero, Vermont 05474

Phone: 802-372-6921 Fax: 802-372-4898 Web Site: www.gisu.org

MEDICATION POLICY REMINDER: Prescription medication will only be given with a written doctor's order and parental permission. Over the counter medications can be given with parental permission only.

Children are not to bring medications in to school on the bus or in their backpack. **We require that all medications (prescription and non-prescription) are brought to school by an adult, in their original container with the appropriate labels.** **Please do not give medications to the bus driver to deliver to the school.

As a reminder, we always have acetaminophen (ex. Tylenol), ibuprofen (ex. Advil), and Benadryl in the health office. It is not necessary for a student to have their own supply at school. Please let the Health Office staff know if your child needs any of these medications *on a schedule* and when a dose is given at home, prior to school.

Additionally, it is part of our process to decline administration of herbal or alternative medications at school. Administration of such medications at school is not endorsed by the VT Department of Health, the National Association for School Nurses, or by the American Academy of Pediatrics. These alternative medications are not evaluated by the FDA and we cannot be assured of their safety or reliability in the school setting. As quoted **From the American Academy of Pediatrics**: *Alternative medications, such as herbal or homeopathic medications, are not tested by the US Food and Drug Administration for safety or effectiveness. Lack of safety information for these medications limits their appropriate use at school.⁵⁷ State and district medication policies should be used for alternative medications. These medications should never be administered without a written physician order. State and district policies should also address experimental medications and medications administered at doses in excess of manufacturer guidelines.⁵⁸*

If you would like your child to take an herbal or homeopathic medication at school, we will require a written order from the child's physician indicating that it is medically safe for them to have the medication during the school day, with guidance around use with over the counter medications we might provide such as acetaminophen (ex. Tylenol) or ibuprofen (ex. Advil).

One last reminder, cough drops are considered medication and will be treated as such. Please follow our policy as stated in this notice and deliver the cough drops to school via an adult. A permission form must be completed by the parent/guardian in order for the cough drops to be administered to the student in the health office.

Thank you for helping us to keep your child safe while at school!