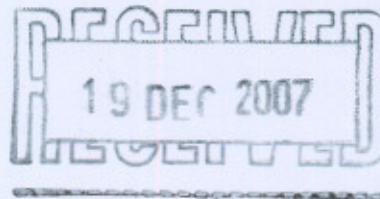


department for
children, schools and families

Castle View House
P.O. Box 12
East Lane
Runcorn
Cheshire
WA7 2GJ

Dr Bill Beeby
British Medical Association
B M A House
Tavistock Square
LONDON
WC1H 9JP



Tel: 0870 000 2288
info@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk
www.dcsf.gov.uk

Our ref: 2007/0082903
30 November 2007

Dear Dr Beeby

Thank you for your letter of 6 December about the medicines requirements in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

We are aware that that the statutory guidance within the EYFS that providers should only accept prescribed medicines has caused concern for some childcare providers. We will, therefore, be amending the EYFS so that childcare providers currently have under the national standards for day care and childminding to give non-prescription medication when they have parents' prior written consent. The amendment will be made when the EYFS is reprinted in the spring. We will also be publishing clarification on the EYFS section of the Teachernet website shortly.

You will also wish to be aware that the statement in the EYFS statutory guidance that providers should keep prescribed medicines in a locked non-portable container will also be amended. Except for controlled drugs (the supply, possession and administration of which are controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971), medicines which may be required quickly in an emergency should not be locked away. Clarification of this issue is already on the Teachernet website.

Yours sincerely

Craig Toulson
Public Communications Unit



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE