



ST ANDREW'S COLLEGE

## **POLICY AROUND THE MEDICATION PRESCRIBED FOR CONCENTRATION ISSUES IN CLASS**

### **WHERE ADD/ADHD HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED IN THE PAST BUT NO MEDICATION HAS BEEN ADMINISTERED TO DATE:**

- Where ADD/ADHD has been diagnosed in past Psychological reports (and/or documented in the family i.e. a history of ADD/ADHD in the family), copies of these documents need to be furnished to the School's Educational Psychologist.
- An interview between the Educational Psychologist and the child will follow as well as telephonic communication (personal where possible) with the parents.
- The teachers and tutor of the pupil will be asked to complete a 'Symptom checklist for attention deficit disorder' in the form of a Copeland, Conners or Brown's questionnaire, to see if the inattention is pervasive. The questionnaire will be provided and distributed by the School's Educational Psychologist.
- Where there is consistency resonating through the questionnaires completed by the teachers, the Educational Psychologist will arrange for the pupil to see the school doctor for the possible prescription of medication.
- Prescription of medication will be at the doctor's discretion

### **WHERE THERE ARE NO PAST PSYCHOLOGICAL REPORTS (Possibility of undiagnosed ADD/ADHD):**

- The Educational Psychologist will arrange a telephonic/personal interview with the pupil's parents to gain background information and history.
- Parents will be asked to complete a 'Symptom checklist for attention deficit disorder' in the form of a Conners's questionnaire, which will be provided by the Educational Psychologist.
- The Educational Psychologist will arrange an interview with the pupil.
- The pupil's teachers and tutor will be asked to complete a 'Symptom checklist for attention deficit disorder' in the form of a Copeland, Conners or Brown's questionnaire which will be provided by the Educational Psychologist. About two weeks is needed to collate this information.
- Where inconsistency resonates through the questionnaires completed by parents and teachers alike, the pupil will be sent for a CAS (Cognitive Assessment System) and other possible assessments with a private psychologist, to ascertain the prevalence and degree of concentration issues.
- Where there is consistency resonating through the questionnaires completed by parents and teachers alike, the pupil will be referred to a Specialist Paediatrician with an interest in ADD/ADHD and all questionnaires will be forwarded to the relevant doctor.
- Appointments for doctors and psychologists will be booked by the SAN.
- Prescription of medication will be at the doctor's discretion.