

Gateways School Health and First Aid Policy

Rationale

Most pupils will have a medical condition at some time during their school life that may impact on their daily school activities. Positive, supportive management at these times will enable the pupil to continue to access education, as is their right. The medical condition may be short-term, e.g. antibiotics or long-term, e.g. diabetes or emergency aid, e.g. anaphylaxis.

Purpose

1. To maintain the health and comfort of the pupil and allow him/her to continue education.
2. To manage conditions in a safe, calm manner.
3. To give support and advice to staff.
4. To store and administer any medication safely.
5. To ensure easy access to first aid kits.
6. To ensure a qualified first aider is on site at all times when children are on site, including weekends.

Guidelines

1. Parents should always inform the school fully of any medical condition that the pupil has and give regular updates if it is a changing condition.
2. Medication and accidents are recorded in the health room book, including a patient's refusal to take treatment. (See medicines procedure).
3. Parents are informed by telephone, planner or letter if a pupil has an accident.
4. Medication is stored safely.
5. HSE are notified of any incident reportable under RIDDOR.
6. As a duty of care an ambulance is called when needed.
7. Cleaning staff wear correct P.P.E. when dealing with spillage of body fluids.
8. Staff are involved in appropriate training every three years.

Conclusion

Every child has a right to an education and must be allowed to take part in all activities to the best of their ability in a safe and comfortable environment. Parents must have confidence in the staff that their child's condition will be managed sensitively and effectively. All health related policies are updated annually by the School Nurse.

This policy and its procedures is whole school and includes out of school care.