



First Aid Policy

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Statement of intent

St Edwards School is committed to providing an emergency first aid provision in order to deal with accidents and incidents affecting staff, pupils and visitors. The arrangements within this policy are based on the results of a suitable and sufficient first aid needs assessment/risk assessment carried out by the school in regard to all staff, pupils and visitors.

The school will take every reasonable precaution to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all staff, pupils and visitors.

This policy aims to:

- Ensure that the school has an adequate, safe and effective first aid provision for every pupil, member of staff and visitor, to be well looked after in the event of any illness, accident or injury, no matter how major or minor.
- Ensure that staff and pupils are aware of the procedures in the event of any illness, accident or injury.
- Ensure that medicines are only administered at the school when express permission has been granted for this.
- Ensure that all medicines are appropriately stored.
- Promote effective infection control.

Nothing in this policy will affect the ability of any person to contact the emergency services in the event of a medical emergency. For the avoidance of doubt, staff should dial 999 in the event of a medical emergency before implementing the terms of this policy and make clear arrangements for liaison with ambulance services on the school site.

1. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- The overarching development and implementation of this policy and all corresponding procedures.
- Ensuring that the relevant risk assessments, and assessments of the first aid needs of the school specifically, have been conducted.
- Ensuring that there is a sufficient number of appointed first aiders within the school based upon these assessments.
- Ensuring that there are procedures and arrangements in place for first aid during off-site or out-of-hours activities, e.g. educational visits or parents' evenings.
- Ensuring that insurance arrangements provide full cover for any potential claims arising from actions of staff acting within the scope of their employment.
- Ensuring that appropriate and sufficient first aid training is provided for staff, and ensuring that processes are in place to validate that staff who have undertaken training have sufficient understanding, confidence and expertise in carrying out first aid duties.
- Ensuring that adequate equipment and facilities are provided for the school site.
- Ensuring that first aid provision for staff does not fall below the required standard and that provision for pupils and others complies with the relevant legislation and guidance.
- Ensuring that an 'appointed person' is selected from amongst staff to take the lead in first aid arrangements and procedures for the school.

The Headmaster is responsible for:

- The development and implementation of this policy and its related procedures.
- Ensuring that all staff and parents are made aware of the school's policy and arrangements regarding first aid.
- Ensuring that all staff are aware of the locations of first aid equipment and how it can be accessed, particularly in the case of an emergency.
- Ensuring that all pupils and staff are aware of the identities of the school first aiders and how to contact them if necessary.

Staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that they have sufficient awareness of this policy and the outlined procedures, including making sure that they know who to contact in the event of any illness, accident or injury.
- Endeavouring at all times to secure the welfare of the pupils at school.
- Making pupils aware of the procedures to follow in the event of illness, accident or injury.

First aid staff are responsible for the above as well as:

- Completing and renewing training as dictated by the governing board, to ensure they have up to date knowledge of:
 - What to do in an emergency.
 - Cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
 - First aid for the unconscious casualty.
 - First aid for the wounded or bleeding.
 - Maintaining injury and illness records as required.
- Ensuring that they are competent and confident in administering first aid.
- Ensuring that they are fully aware of the content of this policy and any procedures for administering first aid, including emergency procedures.
- Informing the appointed person when items from the school's first aid containers have been used.
- Carrying out bi-yearly checks of their own first aid kits.
- Administering non-prescription medication where required (subject to the necessary medicines training).
- Ensuring they retrieve a portable first aid kit for use during school trips and other off site activities.
- Updating pupil's parent or guardian with regards to first aid and medical matters in the absence of the appointed person or alternatively ensuring this is done by the pupil's keyworker or the medical administrator.
- Ensuring pupils medical information is conveyed to the relevant emergency services in the event of an unplanned hospital admission.

The appointed person is responsible for:

- Overseeing the school's first-aid arrangements.
- Administering non-prescription medication where required (subject to the necessary medicines training).
- Taking charge when someone is injured or becomes ill.
- Looking after the first-aid equipment, e.g. restocking the first aid containers and medical room supplies, maintaining the schools AED.
- Ensuring that an ambulance or other professional medical help is summoned when appropriate.
- Keeping accurate records of all illness and injury.
- Ensuring pupils medical information is made available for staff to convey to the emergency services in the event of an unplanned hospital admission.
- Updating pupil's parent or guardian with regards to first aid and medical matters.
- Providing portable first aid kits for school trips and other off site activities.
- Providing first aid training for school staff.

- Partaking in emergency first aid training, and refresher training where appropriate, to ensure they have up to date knowledge of:
 - What to do in an emergency.
 - Cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
 - First aid for the unconscious casualty.
 - First aid for the wounded or bleeding.
 - Maintaining injury and illness records as required.

2. First aid provision

The school will routinely re-evaluate its first aid arrangements, at least annually, to ensure that these arrangements continue to be appropriate for hazards and risks on the school premises, the size of the school, the needs of any vulnerable individual's onsite, and the nature and distribution of pupils and staff throughout the school.

The school will have suitably stocked first aid boxes in line with the assessment of needs. Where there is no special risk identified, a minimum provision of first aid items will be as follows:

- 10 Assorted Plasters
- 1 Roll First Aid Tape
- 1 Eye Pad
- 1 Large Dressing
- 1 Medium Dressing
- 2 Pairs of Gloves
- 1 Vent Aid
- 1 First Aid Guidance Leaflet
- 10 Cleansing Wipes
- 1 Safety Pin
- 1 Triangular Bandage
- 1 Foil Blanket
- 1 Pair Heavy Duty Clothing Shears
- 1 Eye Wash Pod
- 1 Finger Bandage

All first aid containers will be identified by a green cross on a white background or a white cross on a green background.

The appointed person will routinely examine the contents of first aid boxes, including any portable first aid kits for off-site use – these will be frequently checked and restocked as soon as possible after use. It is the responsibility of first aid trained staff to inform the appointed person when items from the school's first aid containers have been used so they can be restocked. Items will be safely discarded after the expiry date has passed.

First aid boxes/kits are in the following areas:

- Cookery Room (The Bridge)
- D.T. Suite
- Eden Care Office
- Fitness Suite
- IT Suite
- Lower School kitchen
- LSA Classroom
- Main Foyer Evac Kit
- Maintenance Department
- Maintenance shed
- Main kitchen
- Middle School Care Office
- Moonbeam Yacht
- Outdoor Education Classroom
- Residential Landing
- Science Room
- Sewing Room
- Sports Hall/New Gym
- Staff Room
- Swimming Pool
- The Bridge Office
- Therapists Office
- Top Office
- Tractor Shed
- Upper School Care Office
- BTEC Classroom
- Day Trips Out No.1
- Day Trips Out No.2
- Day Trips Out No.3
- Fishing Kit
- Deputy Head Pastoral Office
- Maintenance Van
- Motorbike garage/van
- Mountain Bike Kit
- Site Managers Office
- All School Vehicles

3. First aiders

The main duties of first aiders will be to administer immediate first aid to pupils, staff or visitors, and to ensure that an ambulance or other professional medical help is called when necessary.

The school will ensure that all first aiders hold a valid certificate of competence, issued by a HSE-approved organisation, and that refresher training and retesting of competence is arranged for first aiders within the school before certificates expire.

The school will be mindful that many standard first aid at work training courses do not include resuscitation procedures for children, and will consequently ensure that appropriate training is secured for first-aid personnel where this has not already been obtained. Paediatric resuscitation is covered during the schools in-house first aid training courses delivered by the school Medical Officer.

First aiders will ensure that their first aid certificates are kept up-to-date through liaison with the SLT and the Medical Officer.

Each classroom's first aiders will be responsible for ensuring all first aid kits are properly stocked and maintained. It is the responsibility of first aid staff to inform the appointed person when items from the school's first aid containers have been used so they can be restocked. The first aid appointed person will be responsible for maintaining supplies.

First aid notices will be clearly displayed throughout the school with information on the names and locations of first aiders to ensure that pupils and staff know who they must contact in the event of illness or injury.

The current first aid appointed person(s) are:

Name	Contact	Location	Date of first aid qualification
Jack Smith	X	Upper School Care Office/Medical Room	18.08.2021

The school will ensure that there is always a sufficient number of first-aid personnel available on site at all times to provide adequate cover to all areas of the school.

All staff members will be made aware that agreeing to become a first aider for the school is strictly on a voluntary basis and that they should never feel pressured to take on this role.

When selecting first aiders, the school will follow the criteria laid out in government guidance, considering the individual's:

- Reliability and communication skills.
- Aptitude and ability to absorb new knowledge and learn new skills.

- Ability to cope with stressful and physically demanding emergency procedures.
- Normal duties – a first aider must be able to leave to go immediately to an emergency.

4. Automated external defibrillators (AEDs)

The school has procured four AEDs, which are located in the Upper School Care Office next to the first aid cabinet, The Eden Care Office, The Residential Landing Kitchen and The Bridge Office.

Where the use of the AED is required, individuals will follow the step-by-step instructions displayed on the device. Use of the AED will be promoted to pupils during RSHE lessons.

5. Emergency procedures

If an incident, illness or injury occurs, the member of staff in charge will assess the situation and decide on the appropriate course of action, which may involve calling for an ambulance immediately or calling for a first aider.

If called, a first aider will assess the situation and take charge of first aid administration. If the first aider does not consider that they can adequately deal with the presenting condition by the administration of first aid, then they will arrange for the injured person to access appropriate medical treatment without delay.

Where an initial assessment by the first aider indicates a moderate to serious injury has been sustained, or the individual has become seriously unwell, a responding staff member will call 999 immediately.

Where necessary, a trained staff member will administer emergency help and first aid to all injured persons. The purpose of this is to keep the victim alive and, if possible, comfortable, before professional medical help arrives. In some situations, immediate action can prevent the accident from becoming increasingly serious, or from involving more victims.

Where the seriously injured or unwell individual is a pupil, the following process will be followed:

- A responding staff member calls 999 immediately and follows the instructions of the operator – this may include the administering of emergency first aid.
- Where an ambulance is required, a staff member accompanies the pupil in the ambulance and calls the pupil's parent as soon as possible to inform them of the course of action taken. The staff member remains with the pupil at the hospital until a parent arrives.
- Where an ambulance is not required, but medical attention is needed, the pupil is taken to a hospital or doctor in a school vehicle, accompanied by at least **two** staff members – one of whom to drive the car, and one of whom, a first aider, to sit with the pupil in the back seat and attend to their medical needs. The pupil's parent is called

as soon as possible to inform them that this course of action has been taken, and at least one of the staff members remains with the pupil at the hospital or doctor's office until a parent arrives.

- The school will ensure that no further injury can result from any incidents that occur, either by making the scene of the incident safe, or (if they are fit to be moved) by removing injured persons from the scene.
- Responding staff members will see to any pupils who may have witnessed the incident or its aftermath and who may be worried or traumatised, despite not being directly involved. These pupils will be escorted from the scene of the incident and comforted. Younger or more vulnerable pupils may need parental support to be called immediately.

Once the above action has been taken, details of the incident will be reported promptly to:

- The Headmaster.
- The parent / guardian of the victim(s).
- The Duty Senior (if applicable).

6. Reporting accidents and record keeping

In the event of incident or injury to a pupil, a parent will be informed as soon as practicable. In the event of a serious injury or an incident requiring emergency medical treatment, the pupil's keyworker or the Medical Officer will telephone the pupil's parents as soon as possible. Parents will be informed in writing of any injury to the head, whether minor or major, and be given guidance on the action to take if symptoms develop.

A list of emergency contacts will be kept in the school office and the medical room.

The appointed person will ensure that records are kept of any injuries, accidents or illnesses, as well as any first aid treatment that is given – this will include:

- The date, time and place of the incident.
- The name and class of the injured or ill person.
- Details of the injury or illness and what first aid was given.
- What happened to the person immediately afterwards, e.g. whether they were sent home or went back to class.
- Name of the first aider or person dealing with the incident.

The Headmaster will ensure that any injury or accident that must be reported to the HSE or LA under RIDDOR obligations is reported in a timely and detailed manner.

All records will be filed and stored in line with data protection procedures.

7. Offsite visits and events

Before undertaking any offsite visits or events, the teacher or staff member organising the trip or event will assess the level of first aid provision required by undertaking a suitable and sufficient risk assessment of the visit or event and the persons involved. Ensuring an adequate number of qualified first aiders and first aid kits are present.

8. Storage of medication

Medicines will be stored securely and appropriately in accordance with individual product instructions, save where individual pupils have been given responsibility and parental consent for keeping such equipment with them. Medicines will be stored in the original container in which they were dispensed, together with the prescriber's instructions for administration, and properly labelled, showing the name of the patient, the date of prescription and the date of expiry of the medicine.

Medicine brought in by pupils will be returned to their parents for safe disposal when they are no longer required or have expired.

An emergency supply of medication will be available for pupils with medical conditions that require regular medication or potentially lifesaving equipment, e.g. an EpiPen.

Parents will advise the school when a child has a chronic medical condition or severe allergy that requires managing in school so that an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHCP) can be implemented and staff can be trained to deal with any emergency in an appropriate way. Examples of this include epilepsy, diabetes and anaphylaxis. A disclaimer will be signed by the parents in this regard.

9. Illnesses and allergies

When a pupil becomes ill during the school day, their parent will be contacted and asked to pick their child up as soon as possible.

A quiet area/sick bay will be set aside for withdrawal and for pupils to rest while they wait for their parent to pick them up. Pupils will be monitored during this time.

10. Consent

Parents will be asked to complete and sign a medical consent form when their child is admitted to the school, which includes emergency numbers, alongside details of allergies and chronic conditions. Parents should notify the school if this information changes so we can update our records.

Staff do not act 'in loco parentis' in making medical decisions as this has no basis in law. Staff will always aim to act and respond to accidents and illnesses based on what is reasonable under the circumstances and will always act in good faith while having the best interests of the pupil in mind.

11. Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the governing board, and any changes communicated to all members of staff.

Staff will be required to familiarise themselves with this policy as part of their induction programme. Staff will be informed of the arrangements that have been made in connection with the provision of first aid, including the location of equipment, facilities and personnel.

The next scheduled review date for this policy is 21/10/2024

This review: KT/JS October 2023