



Shawlands Primary School

First Aid Policy

REVIEWED ANNUALLY

Updated December 2018.

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this First Aid Policy is to enable the school to effectively meet the requirements of the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 and in doing so to:

- Provide for the immediate needs and requirements of staff and students who have sustained either a serious or a minor injury
- Ensure that adequate resources and arrangements are in place to deal with injuries/accidents as they arise
- Ensure lines of communication with parents/families are in place if required Activate a known plan of action with which all staff are familiar

The School shall inform employees of the first-aid provisions made for staff, including the position of equipment, facilities and names of designated first aiders.

The treatment of minor illness by the administration of medicines and tablets falls outside of the definition of first aid in the Regulations and the School will not permit the presence of any such medication in designated first-aid boxes. Please refer to the Managing Medicines Policy for more information.

DEFINITIONS:

'First aid' means medical treatment for an injured person for the purpose of preserving and stabilising life and minimising the consequences of injury or illness until further medical treatment can be administered.

'First aider' means: a person who holds a valid First Aid at Work Certificate or equivalent qualification.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- The overall responsibility for the day-to-day management of school rests with the Head teacher.
- The class teacher is responsible for classroom supervision and all staff on break duty are directly responsible for the supervision of pupils at break time.
- The school's Health and Safety Officer is Miss C Billington
- The Business Manager, the Headteacher, the Caretaker and Mrs Auty, staff Governor, are all responsible for supporting the school's daily health and safety practice.

ASSESSMENT OF FIRST-AID NEEDS

The Head Teacher shall make an assessment of first-aid needs appropriate to the circumstances of the school. The Head Teacher will need to assess what facilities and personnel are appropriate, and to justify the level of first aid provision. Where necessary and relevant, all staff will be trained on how to administer aspects of first aid e.g. epi-pens. Where the first-aid assessment identifies a need for employees to be trained as first aiders, the Head Teacher shall ensure they are provided in sufficient numbers at appropriate locations to enable first aid to be administered without delay should the occasion arise. **All designated first aiders must re-qualify every 3 years. This means re-qualifying before the end of the third year when the certificate is no longer valid.**

All staff will ensure that they have read the school's First Aid Policy. The policy is displayed in the staff room and the main office entrance for all staff and visitors.

MANAGEMENT OF FIRST-AID EQUIPMENT

It shall be the responsibility of the Bursar and Business Manager to ensure the provision of materials, equipment and facilities needed for the level of cover required. This will include ensuring that first-aid equipment, suitably marked and easily accessible, is available in the relevant areas. Where additional or replacement material or equipment is required, staff should speak to the Admin Officer or Bursar about ordering more items immediately. The Bursar and Admin Officer will also ensure that all out of date items are discarded and replaced. These need to be checked on a regular basis i.e termly.

Although the Admin Officer, Bursar and Business Manager are responsible for maintaining and checking the first aid equipment, it is also expected that before going on duty/ on a school visit etc, first aiders shall take responsibility for ensuring their first-aid box and bumbag contents are sufficient.

FIXED AND PORTABLE FIRST-AID BOXES

All School first-aid boxes and bumbags are coloured green and are identified by a white cross on a green background. This conforms to the Safety Signs and Safety Signals Regulations. Each fixed box should be placed where it can be clearly identified and readily accessible. Portable First Aid Boxes are located in each phase, the school kitchen and the medical room (central). We also have a bag to take out of school for sporting events and educational visits.

FIRST-AID ROOMS, TREATMENT AREAS AND UPDATED TRAINING NEEDS

According to DFE guidance, where first-aid needs to be administered in a room, it should be administered in the school office or another room which will:

- (a) be large enough to hold necessary equipment;
- (b) have washable surfaces and adequate heating, ventilation and lighting;
- (c) be kept clean, tidy at all times;
- (d) be positioned as near as possible to a point of access for transport to hospital;
- (e) display a notice on the door advising of the names, locations and telephone numbers of first aiders
- (f) have a sink (with hot and cold water if possible);
- (g) have drinking water and disposable cups;
- (h) have soap and paper towels;
- (i) have a suitable container (preferably foot operated) lined with disposable waste bags

This means that, if needed, First Aid can also be administered in a classroom, the hall or the art space.

The office has:

- (j) a store for first-aid materials;
- (k) a telephone or other communication equipment; and
- (l) disposable gloves and aprons, should be provided near the first-aid box. These will be used to protect the first aider from contact with body fluids.
- (m) a First-Aid Record Book for recording incidents where first aid has been given.

At all times the dignity and feelings of the patient must be respected. The CPD leader will arrange training for the qualification and re-qualification of first aiders.

Before being nominated the designated first aider by their manager, a first aider must hold a valid First Aid at Work Certificate of competence or an equivalent qualification. In the event of an unqualified person being nominated to be responsible for first-aid duties, they will be required to undergo a suitable course of training.

PROVISION OF FIRST AIDERS

There shall normally be a minimum of 5 first aiders or appointed persons within the school between 8:55am and 3:35pm. At least one first aider will be on duty at playtimes and there will always be a first aider in the office in lesson time.

Consideration must also be made to ensure first-aid cover during absences, such as annual leave and sickness. This is the responsibility of the Bursar and Inclusion Manager.

CATEGORIES OF INCIDENTS AND PROCEDURES

Any pupil complaining of illness or who has been injured is sent to the School Office for the qualified First Aider(s) to inspect and, where appropriate, treat. Constant supervision will be provided. Should the child be too ill to stay at school, parents should be contacted as soon as possible so that the child can be collected and taken home.

Minor Accidents and Injuries

The adult in charge initially looks after the injured party. If deemed necessary, a person other than the teacher will take the child to the 'First Aid Station', which is the School Office, or the bench in the playground. No medicines are administered but cuts are cleaned with sterile un-medicated wipes and bandages are applied if deemed appropriate. The use of disposable plastic gloves is mandatory at all times. **All accidents are recorded in the Accident Report Book by the first aider, parents are always contacted by telephone and a note (recording details of the incident/actions taken) is sent home.**

In all cases of injury it is understood that there is at least one adult present. The First Aid Policy is based on collective teacher input. All staff automatically assist the teacher on break duty and the first-aider in the case of a serious injury.

Minor Cuts and Bruises:

- A first aider should administer first aid if appropriate. If the first aider is not available, any member of staff may clean the wound.
- Class teacher is informed by the first aider.
- Adult observation is maintained
- Children are advised to show/tell parents

Sprains/Bruises:

- A first aider should administer first aid if appropriate. If the first aider is not available, any member of staff may implement the process of rest, ice, compress and elevate
- If in doubt, parent/s are contacted
- Adult observation is maintained

Faints and Shocks:

- A first aider should administer first aid if appropriate. If the first aider is not available, any member of staff may implement the process of:
 - Lie the casualty down
 - Raise the legs above the level of the heart
 - Loosen any tight clothing
 - Ensure there is fresh air
 - Keep crowds away
 - Reassure casualty when they recover
 - Contact parents – the pupil should go home

Stings/Bites:

- If case is serious/ parent/s are contacted – no stings should be removed.

More Serious Accidents and Injuries:

If considered safe to do so, the injured party is taken to the First Aid Station. Parents are immediately informed, particularly if there is a suspicion of broken bones/head or eye injuries. The child is kept under close observation until parents arrive, with the emphasis on making the child as comfortable and settled as possible.

Very Serious Injuries:

In the event of a very serious injury, parents/guardians are immediately contacted. If the considered opinion of the staff is that immediate professional help is required, an ambulance is called. On rare occasions the staff may agree that taking the child to Accident & Emergency in a private car is a more prudent option particularly in the case of rapid blood loss. This should be on a voluntary basis. In such cases staff should ensure they have specific cover from their insurance company.

Parents are kept informed of developing situations. Very serious injuries are considered to be: **Severe Bleeding Burns/Scalds Unconsciousness**. The event is subsequently recorded in the Accident Report Book.

FIRST-AID RECORD KEEPING

It shall be the responsibility of the Business Manager, or other nominated officer, to ensure that procedures are in place for the immediate recording of any injury as required by the Social Security Act 1975 and the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995. Details on the forms to be completed, time scales for completion and distribution and who is to be notified, are shown on the health & safety policy.

After administering treatment, first aiders will ensure they adhere to the School arrangements for record keeping and accident reporting, as detailed below.

All incidents, injuries, head injuries, ailments and treatment are reported in the accident book, kept in the office.

The information recorded will include

- i) date, time and place of incident;
- ii) name and, where relevant, job title of the injured or ill person;
- iii) details of the injury/illness and what first aid was given;
- iv) what happened to the person immediately afterwards e.g. went home, went back to lessons, went to hospital, etc; and
- v) name and signature of the first aider or person dealing with the incident.

Parents are informed of a head injury by letter. The letter outlines the injury and symptoms to look out for.

Admin team contact parents by phone if they have concerns about the injury.

Staff should complete the accident book if they sustain an injury at work.

An injured member of staff or other supervising adult should not continue to work if there is any possibility that further medical treatment is needed. The member of staff or other supervising adult concerned should seek medical advice without delay.

DUTY TO INFORM STAFF OF FIRST-AID ARRANGEMENTS

All staff must be informed of the location of first aiders, appointed persons, equipment and facilities.

Please note that expectations on all staff are made clear, linked to safeguarding and child protection, through our 'Professional Code of Conduct Policy'.