



Use of Crutches in School Guidance

This may be relevant to those wearing an Orthopaedic Boot without crutches

Date: March 2026

Review: March 2029

(or sooner if a change in legislation necessitates a review)

In most cases the school will be able to accept students who are using crutches into school if the following points are adhered to:

Before a student attends school using crutches parents/carers should:

- Consider the large size and multiple levels of the school site and be confident that their child can use crutches safely within the school environment.
- Speak to the Medical Team to discuss and make appropriate arrangements.

Stairs

- If a student is non weight bearing, they cannot use the stairs unless they have been taught how to do so by a Physiotherapist and parents/carers confirm they are safe.
- If a student is partially weight bearing, they may use the stairs if either:
 - They have been taught how to do so by a Physiotherapist and parents/carers confirm they are safe, or
 - Parents/carers give permission for the School Nurse to show their child how to use the stairs as per Patient Leaflet: *Climbing up and down stairs with a walking aid Partial-weight bearing (PWB)*. Northern Care Alliance NHS Group. 2025. (See Link)
 - Students will be given a copy of this document.

Moving around the school

- Parents/carers will be permitted onto the school site and may use the disabled parking bays to drop off and pick up students from school.
- Students must not be in the corridors at busy times; they should not be walking around during lesson change over, lunch or break time.
- Students should not walk outside to lessons if weather is severe.
- At break and lunch students should remain inside, either:
 - In the Head of Year (HoY) area, or
 - In the Library
- Students will be given permission to leave lessons a few minutes early to avoid the busy corridors at change over times and may arrive a few minutes late for the same reason.
- Students must always be accompanied by another student, who will open doors, carry bags and their second crutch on the stairs as appropriate.
- Students should avoid unnecessary walking and may use short cuts and avoid one-way systems to reduce distance between lessons.
- Students can register at Reception if their Tutor room is difficult to access and wait there or in the Medical Room until lessons start; they should be collected by a friend.
- Students can wait in the Year 11 cloakroom or HOY area at busy change over times if needed.
- A Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP) will be developed with and given to students (Appendix A).

- Relevant staff will be emailed by the Medical Team to advise that a student is on crutches and the adjustments required in school.

If unable to get to a lesson

- Students need to sit in the HoY area during any lessons that they cannot reach.
- Staff will set and send work if the student is unable to attend the lesson.
- Students are advised to bring home learning into school in case appropriate work cannot be set.
- Occasionally, in negotiation with the HoY, students may be able to arrive late or leave early if PE or Dance lessons are at the beginning or end of the school day.

In all cases when a student arrives in school on crutches they are required to meet with a member of the Medical Team to go through the *Use of Crutches in School Guidance*, agree on adjustments needed and complete the *Use of Crutches in School Agreement*. (Appendix B). A copy of the Guidance and Agreement will be given to them before moving around the school.

Student wheelchairs are not permitted into school due to Occupational Health and Safety risks.

Links

[Orthopaedic Surgery - Climbing up and down stairs with a walking aid - Partial Weight Bearing \(PWB\) :: Northern Care Alliance](#)

Appendix A

Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP)

Name

Tutor

Date

In the event of the fire alarm sounding:

- During a lesson the teacher will evacuate the rest of the class and then accompany you out of the building avoiding the stairs where possible

- At break or lunch a member of staff will collect you from

_____ and accompany you out of the

building avoiding the stairs where possible

- If you are not in one of the above locations:
 - Do not re-enter the building if already outside
 - Seek assistance from the nearest member of staff (see below)
 - If inside, take the closest exit so that you are out of the building but avoid the stairs where possible
 - Avoid being in the middle of a crowd where possible
- Once outside:
 - Ask a staff member to accompany you to a safe location; preferably the wall outside the Year 11 Cloakroom, when it is safe to do so. DO NOT go onto the Astro
 - Give your Orange 'Student with mobility issues' card (example below) to a second staff member to take to your Tutor so they are aware you are safely out of the building and can register you.

STUDENTS WITH MOBILITY ISSUES

Student Name:

Tutor Group:

Tutor Name/s

I am safely out of the building

In the case of fire evacuation, please hand to a member of staff to take to your tutor for registration.

Appendix B

Use of Crutches in School Agreement

Name	
Tutor	
Date	
Reason for using crutches	
Likely time frame for using crutches	
Agreement	Signature
I have been given a copy of my Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP)	
I have spoken with the Medical Team and been given a copy of the <i>Use of Crutches in School Guidance</i>	
I have been shown how to use the stairs as per the <i>Climbing up and down stairs with a walking aid Partial-weight bearing (PWB) Patient Leaflet</i> and given a copy if appropriate.	By Physio By School Nurse N/A