



Use of Crutches in School Guidance

Date: November 2018

Review: November 2021

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

Reviewer: W Prince/S Whelan

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/guardians should:

- Consider the large size of the school site and be confident that their child can use crutches safely within the school environment
- Speak to the School Nurse and/or Head of Year (HOY) 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
- If a student is partially weight bearing they may use the stairs if either:
 - They have been taught how to do so by a physio
 - Parents/guardians document in the Logbook that their child is safe to use the stairs
 - Parents/guardians document in the Logbook that they are happy for the School Nurse to teach their child how to use the stairs

Moving around the school

- Parents/Guardians 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 if it is wet
- Students should leave lessons 5 minutes early
- Students must always be accompanied by another student who will open doors, carry bags and carry second crutch on stairs if appropriate
- Students can use the front door by Reception to reduce distance between lessons
- If it is dry students may avoid stairs and steps by walking around the outside of the building
- Students can register at Reception if their Tutor room is difficult to access
- Toileting arrangements can be made with the School Nurse if necessary

If unable to get to a lesson

- Students need to sit outside their HOY's office during any lessons that they cannot reach
- The HOY will inform staff that the student may not be able to attend some lessons and request that work is sent to the student if this is the case.
- Students are advised to bring a book or homework to do 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

Wheelchairs are not permitted into school due to Occupational Health and Safety