



Use of Crutches in School Guidance

This may be relevant to those wearing an orthopaedic boot without crutches

Date: February 2022

Review: February 2025

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

Reviewer: S. Hicks

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 School Nurse/Assistant 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 physio 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 Appendix A. Northern Care Alliance NHS Group. (2008). *Climbing up and down stairs with a walking aid Partial-weight bearing (PWB)*. [Information guide]
 - 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 it is very wet or icy
- At break and lunch students should remain inside, either:
 - In their Tutor room
 - In the Head of Year (HOY) area
 - In the Library
- Students will be given permission to leave lessons 5 minutes early or 5 minutes late
- Students must be accompanied by another student who will open doors, carry bags and second crutch on stairs if appropriate
- Students may use short cuts and avoid one-way systems to reduce distance between lessons out of peak times
- Students can register at Reception if their Tutor room is difficult to access
- Students can wait in the Year 11 cloakroom or HOY area at change over times if appropriate
- Toileting arrangements can be made with the School Nurse if necessary
- Appendix B. A Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP) will be developed and given to students

- Relevant staff will be emailed to advise that a student is on crutches and the appropriate information will be given

If unable to get to a lesson

- Students need to sit outside their HOY's office during any lessons that they cannot reach
- Staff will set work if the student is unable to attend the lesson
- Students will be advised to bring a book or homework 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 students are required to complete the Use of Crutches in School Agreement with the School Nurse before moving around the school.

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

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	
I have 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) Information Guide</i> and given a copy.	Or circle N/A