



MALLUSK INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRST AID POLICY

Policy Statement

The Principal and Board of Governors of Mallusk Integrated Primary School accept their responsibility under the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1982 and acknowledge the importance of providing First Aid for employees, children and visitors within the School.

The staff of Mallusk Integrated Primary School recognise their statutory duty to comply with the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 and agree to abide by the Education Authority procedure for reporting accidents.

This policy outlines Mallusk Integrated Primary School's responsibility to provide adequate and appropriate first aid to pupils, staff, parents and visitors and the procedures in place that meet that responsibility.

Rationale

Children and adults in our care need good quality first aid provision. Clear and agreed systems should ensure that all children are given the same care and understanding in our school and when on educational trips and visits.

Introduction

'First Aid is the initial assistance or treatment given to someone who is injured or suddenly taken ill' (The Joint First Aid Manual 8th Edition). Staff administering First Aid should seek to assess the situation, protect themselves and the casualty from further danger, deal with any life threatening condition and where necessary obtain medical assistance or refer the casualty to hospital as quickly as possible.

Statement of First Aid Provision

The School's arrangements for providing First Aid will:-

- Place a duty on the Principal and Board of Governors to approve, implement and review the First Aid policy
- Place individual duties on all employees
- Report and record accidents using relevant forms to the Education Authority
- Record all occasions when First Aid is administered to employees, pupils and visitors
- Provide equipment and materials to provide First Aid treatment
- Make arrangements with Education Authority to provide First Aid training to designated staff members every three years, maintain records of training and review training requirements
- Establish a procedure for managing accidents in school which require First Aid treatment
- Provide information to staff on the arrangements for First Aid
- Determine the number and level of trained staff and also any additional requirements (e.g. specialised training for children with particular medical needs)
- Notify parent/guardian that first aid treatment was given to the child

The School has a separate policy for the administration of medicines and critical incidents.

Arrangements for First Aid

The School will provide materials and equipment and facilities to provide First Aid. The staff room and foyer out to the playground have First Aid Kits. There are mobile First Aid Kits, which can be taken on school trips. (Also stored in staff room).

Basic hygiene procedures must be followed by staff. Single use disposable glove must be worn when treatment involves blood or other bodily fluids. Face masks must also be worn by staff members administering first aid. Care should be taken when disposing of dressings or equipment.

A standard First Aid Kit will contain the following items:

- Leaflet giving general advice on First Aid
- 20 individually wrapped sterile adhesive dressings assorted sizes
- 4 triangular bandages
- 2 sterile eye pads
- 6 safety pins
- 6 medium wound dressings
- 2 large wound dressings
- 3 extra-large wound dressings
- 1 pair of disposable gloves

The contents of the Kits will be checked on a regular basis by Mrs Kinsella, the designated first aider, or by Mr McGrath, the Senior teacher.

The School First Aiders are: **Mrs Kinsella and Mr McGrath.**

Before undertaking any off site activities, the level of first aid provision will be assessed by the Principal and at least one First Aid Kit will be taken along. All teachers will check medical information of their class or the pupils going off site and ensure relevant first aid/medical equipment is also brought in a separate bag, e.g. inhalers, Epi Pens.

Roles and Responsibilities

The main duties of a first aider in school are:

- To complete a training course approved by the Health and Safety Executive/ Education Authority as required
- To give immediate help to casualties with common injuries and those arising from specific hazards at school
- When necessary ensure that an ambulance or other professional medical help is called.
- To ensure first aid boxes are re-stocked as required

Information on First Aid Arrangements

The Principal will inform all employees at the school of the following:

- The arrangements for recording and reporting of accidents
- The arrangements for First Aid
- Those employees who are qualified First Aiders
- The location of the First Aid Kits

In addition, the Principal will ensure that signs are displayed throughout the School providing the following information:

- The names of First Aiders
- Locations of the First Aid Boxes

All members of staff will be made aware of the School's First Aid policy. No member of staff should attempt to give First Aid unless they have been trained.

Accident and Injury Reporting

- All minor accidents or injuries that have required first aid treatment to be administered should be recorded on the Accident log (located on staffroom notice board)
- An accident record is completed for any injuries that are more serious (located in the office filing cabinet)
- AR1 form completed for major injuries, which is then sent to the Education Authority
- A copy of the forms are retained by the school.
- The accident report form should where possible be completed immediately after treatment being administered or at the earliest possible convenient time thereafter
- The child's teacher should be informed of all accidents and injuries
- Parents/ carers will be informed of accidents/injuries

Accidents involving bumps to a Pupil's head

The consequence of an injury from an accident involving a bump or blow to a pupil's head is not always evident immediately and the effects may only become noticeable after a period of time.

Parents/ carers will be informed of all knocks or bumps to a pupil's head regardless of whether emergency treatment is required. This should be done as soon as treatment has been given, by telephone. If this hasn't been possible then a note must be sent home. An EA Head Injury letter must be sent home with any pupil who has bumped their head.

Transport to hospital or home

The Principal will determine the appropriate action to be taken in each case. Where the injury requires urgent medical attention an ambulance will be called and the pupil's parent/ carer will be notified. If hospital treatment is required, then the pupil's parent/ carer will be called for them to take over responsibility. If no contact can be made with parent/ carer or other designated emergency contacts then the Principal may decide to transport the pupil to the hospital.

Where the Principal makes arrangements for transporting a child then the following points will be adhered to:

- No individual member of staff will be alone with the pupil in a vehicle
- A second member of staff will be present to provide supervision of the injured pupil

Illness

Any sick or ill children will be seen in the first instance by their class teacher. If felt necessary, a first aider can be contacted. If it is felt necessary to send home a child, the parent/ carer will be contacted to make arrangements for collection.

A child who has been physically sick should be kept at home for at least 48 hours (Public Health Agency guidelines).

Covid 19

If anyone becomes unwell with symptoms of Covid-19, they and any members of their household within the school must be sent home and advised to follow the PHA guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection.

A child awaiting collection should be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door. Appropriate adult supervision will be provided. Ideally, a window should be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to fully isolate the child, they should be moved to an area which is at least 2m away from other people. If the child needs to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate toilet if possible. The toilet should be cleaned and disinfected before being used by anyone else.

PPE should be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if direct personal care is needed and a distance of 2m cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs).

Educational Visits

- Before undertaking an educational visit or class trip teachers should complete a risk assessment form of their destination
- Adequate first aid equipment must be brought and carried
- These kits should be checked well before the date of visit to ensure they are adequately stocked
- Staff should make a list of all children who need medication
- All those children who require inhalers or epi pens should bring their medication inhaler with their name on it. Depending on age of children this will be kept by the member of staff with their group or by the child themselves.
- A list of contact numbers for all children on the trip should be printed and brought by the teacher in charge
- Any children likely to be travel sick should be seated near the front of bus and a water tight plastic bag & wipes or tissues should be provided
- Travelsick children should be cared for by teacher or other school staff
- Follow the schools normal first aid procedures as outlined previously in this policy

Implementation date: February 2021

Review date: January 2024