



DANESFIELD SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs S Morgan

POLICY FOR THE USE OF CRUTCHES/FRAME IN SCHOOL

Children and adults using crutches are welcome at Danesfield School. We will do our best to encourage them to join in all aspects of school life and make appropriate arrangements to allow them to do this. We hope to consider as many solutions as possible that minimise the risks to all concerned. However, it should be noted that complete access may not always be possible due to safety reasons.

If a child has an injury that requires the use of crutches in school, a letter should be sent by the parent/carer to the Headteacher confirming that the crutches were issued by a doctor and stating the injury sustained. The letter should also state whether or not the pupil is able to weight bear for short periods, and the length of time they are expecting to use the crutches.

Parents/carers should communicate with the Headteacher before the pupil comes into school, in order that a temporary care plan can be agreed.

Where possible, classrooms may be rearranged, but it can be very difficult to move whole classes especially if the injury is long term, so alternatively work may be set and the pupil will be sent to an area that is more accessible. If the injured pupil is unable to weight bear at all, then a place will be found for them to work quietly, under supervision, and they will stay just in this area for their own safety.

If possible, a 'buddy' system will be put in place to provide assistance with any books or bags. The injured pupil and 'buddy' will be excused a few minutes early at the end of lessons so that they can move safely to the next lesson, if appropriate, before excessive human traffic makes this difficult.

The pupil must be responsible for the correct use of the crutches at all times whilst in school, i.e. other pupils playing with them will not be acceptable. They should have received training from a trained medical person in their correct use. Pupils must understand that for their own, and other pupils safety, under no circumstances are they to use any stairs within school. In the event of a Year 5 pupil using crutches, they and their buddy would be accommodated in a ground floor location during the temporary care plan.

We will also seek reassurance that the pupil can not only access the toilets, but can get up and down from a sitting position (ie on the toilet) safely and independently, without fear of further injury.

Transportation to and from school will remain the responsibility of the parent/carer.



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Temporary Care Plan for Pupil using Crutches

Child's Name:

Date of Birth:

Class taught in:

My child has been authorised by me to use crutches.

He/She has received training in the use of crutches.

Anticipated length of time on crutches:

Both my child and I have read and understood the school's policy on the use of crutches in school.

Signed: Parent/Carer

Dated: