



# Ryecroft C.E. Middle School

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Ryecroft C.E. Middle School  
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## Protocol for accepting pupils back into school whilst on crutches

Ryecroft C.E. Middle School requires a letter from a medical professional (GP, hospital etc.) detailing exactly what injury has been sustained before accepting responsibility for a pupil on crutches. This letter should include details of whether the pupil is required to use crutches in school and approximately how long for. Further information to be detailed, if possible, includes: when weight bearing should begin and any follow-up appointments (fracture clinics, physiotherapy etc.). Looking after children on crutches is not a responsibility taken lightly by the school and, without clear medical information, potentially puts the pupil and school at risk.

It is unacceptable for pupils to return to school on crutches that they have obtained from means other than a professional/medical establishment i.e. friends, football coaches etc. – these pupils have not been officially checked out either at the GP or A&E and are a potential danger to both themselves and other pupils.

We would appreciate the pupil being dropped off by a parent/carer on their initial return to school to enable the following to be discussed/explained:

- Whether the pupil can evacuate unaided or whether any personal assistance is needed
- Leaving lessons early
- Medication– authorisation form can be signed and details of storage and delivery of medication explained
- Collecting from school arrangements can be discussed
- Any emergency contact details can be checked
- Follow-up appointments noted

In terms of the health and safety issues within Design and Food Technology, Science and PE, each of these Subject Leaders will make an individual decision as to whether a pupil on crutches can join in with the practical activities. Provisions are currently made during the lesson for pupils to “sit-out” within the classroom environment if it is felt too dangerous for them to join in, and they complete other work.

With regard to footwear all pupils returning to school on crutches should wear their usual footwear. If this is not possible suitable protective footwear should be worn.

A risk assessment detailing the health & safety issues for all pupils on crutches will be completed and parents/carers made aware of the details in each case.

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