

ABBOTSHOLME SCHOOL

Protocol for medical problems that may prevent a pupil going on a School trip

Introduction:

There are occasions when the school cannot allow a pupil on a school trip or activity for reasons associated with health. The school realises that this may be disappointing for the individual concerned, however, the school has to look at the wider picture for all concerned on a particular trip. The school has a duty of care to all the pupils in that group.

The school will endeavour to accommodate individual pupil's needs if possible but there are times when this is not possible or potential dangers are too great for the rest of the group.

Medical Factors to consider

(could include medical, psychological or emotional reasons.)

- a pre-existing medical problem or condition
- a deterioration or change in a pre-existing medical problem
- last minute presentation of illness or injury.
- a medical problem still under investigation

Other Factors to consider:

- all trips and activities undergo a risk assessment and any individual pupil's needs (eg diabetic, asthma, allergy etc) are taken into account
- the Health & Safety of the pupil
- the Health & Safety of the group if a problem were to occur (at least one member of staff may have to leave the rest of the group).
- the location of group (eg near to school/home or not)
- ease of access to medical care, including availability of telephone signal, remoteness of camp, transport etc
- the leaders experience in that activity and relevant First aid
- what the trip involves eg activities to be undertaken
- the overall fitness and the stamina of the pupil

- would the school insurance cover the situation?
- recent injuries will be dealt with according to their extent or nature.eg a pupil unable to weight bear fully may not be allowed out on a walking hike but may be able to watch a climbing group if on OED. Staff and other pupils cannot be expected to help with for example wheelchairs as this brings in further Health & Safety issues.

Process:

1. The School Health advisor will raise concerns with the pupil
2. With the pupil's consent the parents/ guardian will be contacted to inform them of potential exclusion.
3. The School Health Advisor will discuss with the School Medical Officer and obtain a medical opinion.
4. With the pupil's consent the trip leader and head of OED will be informed. This will allow discussion regarding suitability or possible alterations to the trip in order to accommodate the pupil. All the above factors will be taken into account.
5. The School Health Centre respects the right to a pupil's confidentiality at all times but if consent is not given by the pupil to discuss with the OED department etc then that pupil cannot attend the trip/activity. (A trip leader cannot be expected to deal with a medical problem of which they are unaware and had no briefing).
6. Ideally an agreement can be reached between the School Health Advisor and the pupil/parents.
7. If any disagreement then a final decision will be made at a meeting between the Headmaster (or deputy), the head of OED (or deputy) and the School Health Advisor (or deputy).

PK and HH
10.10.11