



College council will review this policy every three years or as directed by DET

Date approved: August 2018

Date of next review: 2021

RATIONALE

Any knock to the head can potentially be serious and can be a life threatening condition.

BROAD GUIDELINES

When a student presents at the Health Centre with a head injury, the following guidelines will be implemented:

- The student will be kept for observation in the Health Centre for 30 minutes.
- The student will be observed for the following:
 - orientation to time, place and person
 - headache (increase of painful headache)
 - loss of memory, particularly of the event
 - blurred vision
 - pupils becoming unequal in size
 - vomiting
 - drowsiness
 - altered response to commands or touch
 - blood or clear fluid escaping from nose or ears.
- An Incident Report will be completed.
- Parents / Guardians will be notified as soon as possible.
- Pain relief will not be given as it 'masks' the signs of the condition.
- If the student is sent home, the person collecting the student will be provided with a Health Centre Concussion Report outlining the signs and symptoms of concussion and to see a doctor if concerned.
- If after speaking to the parent/guardian of a student who has sustained a head injury and they give consent for the student to return to class, the student will be provided with information regarding warning signs that would necessitate a further visit to the nurse. A generic concussion advisory information guide will be provided to the parents.
- If the student returns to class, he/she must return to the Health Centre or the nurse will be called if required if any changes to their condition occur or they are concerned about how they feel. They will be assessed before going home.
- If the student's condition deteriorates, an ambulance will be called by dialling 000. It will be stated that the student has a head injury and that his or her condition is deteriorating.
- Any student who has lost consciousness must be assessed by a doctor or the parent/guardian is encouraged to have the child assessed as soon as possible.