

Newtown School

Caring for the Health of Boarders and Day Students Nest Protocol

The School acts in loco parentis through the Principal and members of staff to whom specific responsibilities may be delegated.

The school provides 24-hour medical cover with nurses and first aid support within the school. The school also has recourse to local doctors and the emergency services located close by, in Waterford Regional Hospital (5 mins away).

Members of the nursing staff conduct regular daily surgeries to treat minor ailments and injuries. They are part of the on call service along with the first aid support, to deal with any emergencies that may arise.

If during school hours a day student feels unwell or suffers an injury, a member of staff may refer that student to Nest or the student may go to the Nest independently and be seen by the nurse or first aid staff.

Members of the nursing staff dispense over the counter/non prescription medicines and treatments, in accordance with the directions in the standard directory for the over-the-counter medicines. If symptoms persist or become severe the member of the nursing staff will call a doctor. Nurses will carry out treatment as directed by the doctor.

Nurses may confine patients to Nest for care and supervision where they will be cared for by the nursing and first aid staff. If a student is going to require a long period of confinement due to infection or illness, the nurse may recommend that the student goes home or to their guardian to recuperate.

All medication and treatment must be administered through Nest. Students must hand in medicines and treatments to Nest for safekeeping and proper use.

In the case of serious illness, injury or emergency, nursing staff will refer the patient to the Regional Hospital.

In all cases of illness, injury or emergency requiring referral to a doctor or to the hospital, the School will contact and inform parents/guardians.

Nurses prepare reports, as the need arises, for the Principal to send to parents about the health of their children.

Nurses may make arrangements for boarders to attend medical and dental practitioners of their choice or consultants as they or parents may require.

When a nurse is of the opinion that a student should be referred for professional advice the nurse recommends to the Principal that parental approval for such referral should be sought.

The nurses maintain and secure the confidential medical records of students in Nest.

The telephone number in Nest is 051 860 217