



## **CARE OF BOARDERS WHO ARE UNWELL OR WHO HAVE AN ACCIDENT POLICY**

### **Policy**

The College has, and implements effectively, appropriate policies for the care of boarders who are unwell or have an injury and ensures that the physical and mental health, and emotional wellbeing of boarders is promoted. These include first aid, care of those with chronic conditions and disabilities, dealing with medical emergencies and the use of homely remedies.

### **Purpose of this document**

To outline the practices in place to meet the health and wellbeing needs of boarding pupils.

### **Procedures**

1. The Richard Penny Medical Centre staff offer 24 hour qualified nurse care to boarders. Boarders may attend the Medical Centre whenever they wish to do so during opening hours. A doctor is available in the centre each day Monday to Friday from 13:30-14:00. Boarders may attend without appointment.
2. If a boarder is unwell or has an accident during Medical Centre opening hours they should make their way to the Medical Centre. If this is not possible a nurse will go out to them. They will be seen, assessed and treated by a qualified nurse. If not well enough to return to lessons, they will be cared for in the Medical Centre by a nurse or in the case of senior boarders and with the consent of their Boarding Housemaster they may rest in their room.
3. In the event of the number of boarders unwell being more than the number of beds available in the Medical Centre then a risk assessment will be made. Boarders judged to be able to be safely cared for in their boarding house will be allowed to rest in their room under the joint care of the boarding house and Medical Centre staff.
4. At the end of the College day any boarder who has been cared for in the Medical Centre may – if well enough - return to the boarding house to the care of the boarding house staff. The boarding house staff will be informed of the care the boarder has received during the day in order that this can be continued if necessary.
5. If a boarder is unwell or has an accident outside the Medical Centre opening hours they should see the member of staff on duty in the boarding house.
6. Members of staff in the boarding house are first aid trained and have had training to administer, and competency assessed to deliver homely remedies for minor injuries or ailments. If a homely remedy is required, this may be administered as per the homely remedies protocol and the Medical Centre will be informed by email when the Centre opens the following morning.

7. Any boarder who has received care in the boarding house overnight or at the weekend may be advised to attend the Medical Centre when it opens in the morning.
8. If a member of staff feels a boarder needs to be seen by a nurse, they should contact the nurse on duty on the Medical Centre mobile number. The nurse will ensure the most appropriate treatment and advice is given and if the boarding house staff and nurse feel that the pupil requires closer supervision, the boarder will be transferred to the Medical Centre. At this stage the nurse becomes resident in the Medical Centre, monitoring the pupil's condition on a regular basis. It may be appropriate to call the GP with whom the boarder is registered or SELDOC (see below) to seek further advice re management. The parent and/or guardian will be informed.
9. If a boarder displays symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting illness, rashes and skin infections, respiratory infections or other infections; as identified by local Health Protection Agency document, exclusion from school setting guidance; this will be followed to prevent the spread of infection. Parents of overseas boarders have a duty to ensure that their sons have a guardian in this country. Arrangements will be made for the boarder to be sent to their parents/guardian at the earliest.
10. If a boarder needs to attend accident and emergency during the College day, they will be accompanied by a member of staff (usually a member of the Medical Centre staff). At other times, the boarder will be accompanied to the hospital by a member of boarding house staff.
11. Where necessary, the boarding house staff should call the emergency services.
12. The College uses an out-of-hours GP service called SELDOC, which is based at the Dulwich Community Hospital. If a boarder needs to see a doctor (but not accident and emergency) when the Medical Centre is closed, the nurse on call will contact SELDOC, which will usually give an appointment for the boarder to be seen at Dulwich Community Hospital within a few hours. A member of boarding staff will take the boarder to the appointment.
13. Any boarder requiring dental, optical or hospital treatment may arrange this through the Medical Centre. Wherever possible the Medical Centre staff will escort them to any appointments. If this is not possible they will make alternative arrangements
14. Information will be shared by the Medical Centre with the boarding house staff with the consent of the boarder. If the boarder does not wish this to happen, confidentiality will be maintained unless there are extenuating circumstances e.g. safeguarding issues.