Health Services, SSS
661.722.0716

Westside Union School District
Pointing the way, providing the path

www.westside.k12.ca.us

School Procedures for Cast and Crutches
Guidelines for School Health Office

PURPOSE:

- To ensure adequate safety of all students requiring a cast or crutches (wheelchairs, walkers, & fracture boots) at school
- To ensure that students requiring a cast and/or crutches have been evaluated by a health care provider and that crutches have not been borrowed or loaned.
- To ensure that students have been trained by a medical professional in proper use of crutches.

All students who return to school with a cast or crutches must have a doctor's note which includes the following:

- Date of visit, diagnosis
- Address any restrictions (P.E., sports, recess, weight-bearing, etc.)
- Date (s) of restrictions and restrictions from activity
- Doctor/provider's signature and stamp

The doctor/provider's note should indicate the following: crutches (or any supports listed above), are to be used at school and that the student has been instructed in proper use of crutches or support devices. The District does not recommend that a student with crutches be allowed to ambulate stairs. However, if a student's physician is allowing this, it must be stated in writing from the physician. Crutches, cast (or any mobility devices) cannot be issued or loaned from the school Health Office. A doctor's note indicating the student may return to school, must be received before the school can accept responsibility for the student

For students who require a wheelchair, crutches, cast, or any mobility devices at school, notify the Health office. Never take crutches away from a student unless the crutches are being used for a purpose other than intended.

For all schools, there should be a designated area during P.E., recess, and lunch for students with casts and crutches (or any type of support devices) to eat and participate in alternative lessons/activities such as: alternative P.E. lessons that are appropriate to the content currently being taught; during recess: board games, puzzles, and/or activity books. Site administrators will provide additional procedures specific to their campus to address the following:

- Early-release passes between classes so students can avoid crowded hallways, etc.
- Authorization for medication at school if medication is required at school (i.e. (pain)
- Personal hygiene/bathroom access
- Any restrictions
- Discuss appropriate expectations to participate in alternative PE lessons (or complete work in the office or designated supervised area)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school site's Health Office