



Dealing with Sickness, First Aid, Medical and Health related issues at Patterdale Hall.

The staff at Patterdale Hall take pride in looking after the health and wellbeing of all their guests.

There is rarely any one situation that is the same as another and therefore the treatment offer is tailored to the guests needs.

Most of the Patterdale Hall staff team are first aid trained either with a 16 Hour Outdoor first aid course, Outdoor First Aid at work or the 6 hour Emergency First aid at work qualification (2.5.24 just one member of staff has not yet done the course).

First aid kits are distributed around the building, in each vehicle and go out with every activity group.

The following resources are also in place.

1. Secure controlled drugs safe – Main office.
2. Mobile lockable fridge – this is in the staff lounge but can be moved to any part of the building i.e. locked withing a staff room for chilled meds given overnight)
3. Large green first aid bag – This sits in the staff room and is the go to resource for providing routine first aid (this saves opening up checked and intricately logged first aid kits).
4. Burn kits for use with hot things like campfires.
5. Ice packs – staff lounge fridge freezer compartment.
6. Comprehensive 'Sick kits' in staff areas (lounge, Seldom seen and Grisedale (staff rooms)

The following areas are where first aid or medical issues are usually attended to.

1. In the field where they happen
2. Sitting calmly in the staff lounge or student lounge (benefits from being an open space)
3. The reception area is commonly a calm but open area to address first aid.
4. If more personal care is required two staff will attend to it in a suitable space, a dormitory or the accessible changing and toilet space in the coach house.

When Sickness Issues Happen.

We don't want people at the Hall in the residential setting who are unwell with likely contagious health issues. When a person is sick, arrangements are made at the earliest reasonable opportunity to get them collected by a parent or guardian and taken home. Just like a school setting, we expect not to have anyone attend who is not 48 hours clear of sickness.

If someone is sick in their dorm/bathroom in the night, we try to move the other students out into an unused dorm. (We request all groups to use the minimum number of dorms to leave one free if possible). If it is reasonable to do so we will ask the parents to collect that night, if it is not possible, early the next day.

If no spare dorms are available, we look at what other resources we have. A room can be cleaned and sanitised, both using common wet cleaning products and the Ozone Cube procured during Covid.

It is rare that we cannot isolate the sick children in a dorm room.

When we get tight, we usually have the lower tower left room, or the coach house rooms to use at our discretion. Either using one of the adult rooms and family bathroom or by putting a z bed or mattress into a classroom beside one of the staff shower and changing facilities. (These were set up and used as isolation rooms during the Covid pandemic).

One must bear in mind that staff (usually the visiting school staff) need to be able to monitor sick children and therefore it is useful to keep them within the centre.

The dynamic decision making, determined by the severity of the situation, the time of day or night, the staff and rooms available, mean that to be too prescriptive in any document could restrict the logical thought processes and rational decision making of the team on the ground. We provide guidance to the employed team and visitors and are available to be contacted for further advice at any time.

During and after a sickness outbreak at Patterdale Hall, all staff are often involved in an increased level of cleaning and sanitising until the outbreak is well over. If we are able to rest a dorm space for 36 hours between guests, we will modify the room plans to do so.

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