



Rutherford
School Caring First
Respect Always



Rutherford School Nursing Department

The Nursing Team at Rutherford School delivers nursing care to the pupils to enable them to access the curriculum as fully as possible.

In order to meet the medical needs of each pupil within the context of the school routine, we work in partnership with parents or carers, the school's intra-disciplinary team and other external professionals as necessary. All pupils have a full nursing care plan which is agreed with parents and carers and updated as necessary, or annually as a minimum.

The nursing team administer prescribed medication and enteral feeds to pupils. We also work with local authorities in assessing pupils for continence products. The school nursing team are available throughout the school day to assist classroom staff in management of seizures, chest management, pain control or skin breakdown and advice if staff have any other medical concerns about a pupil.

Dietetics:

The Dieticians from Croydon University Hospital and Croydon Council run regular Dietetic clinics in school in conjunction with the nursing team and the Dysphagia Specialist provides nutritional guidance and support. Parents and carers are invited to attend these clinics.

Dentist Service

The Community Dental Service visits the school every 6 months to see pupils. Parents do not generally attend but if there are any concerns these are communicated to parents by letter.

Community Paediatrician

Croydon pupils benefit from the services of a community paediatrician who visits the school regularly for clinics; parents and carers will also attend these clinics. These clinics are provided to assist in the

welfare and development of pupils and to prevent them having to spend unnecessary time attending external appointments out of school hours.

The school nurses are available to provide nursing advice and guidance to parents and carers during school hours. If a more in-depth discussion is required this can be arranged by appointment. We also work closely with external bodies such as CHASE hospice symptom control team, local community nursing teams and continuing care assessors.

The Nursing Department at Rutherford School is also an approved training establishment for Student Nurses from Kingston University who are either studying Learning Disability or Child Branch nursing. All parents have been informed by letter that student nurses are sometimes on placement at the school, and the parents have the opportunity to tell us if they do not wish for a student nurse to be involved in the care of their child.

The students find their time at the school worthwhile and a valuable learning experience. Below are some of the comments they have made at the end of their placements.

"...a great team of nurses, they have all contributed significantly to my learning needs..."

"...lovely school, lovely people..."

"I enjoyed observing different nurses' safe practice..."

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