

# **TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **School Procedures for Returning to School after an Injury or Surgery**

**PURPOSE:** To ensure the safety and appropriate accommodations for all students returning to school after an injury or surgery who may require crutches, cast, sling, brace, orthopedic boot, wheelchair, knee scooter or other device.

### **RETURNING TO SCHOOL WITH A DOCTOR'S NOTE:**

A doctor's note must be received before the school can accept responsibility for the student.

Students returning to school with crutches, cast, sling, brace, orthopedic boot, wheelchair, knee scooter or other device with a doctor's note should include the following:

- Date of visit, doctor/provider's signature and stamp
- Any restrictions (P.E., sports, recess, weight-bearing, stairs, etc.)
- Date(s) of restrictions
- For crutches, the doctor/provider should indicate that crutches are to be used at school and that the student has been instructed in proper use of crutches. Crutches will not be issued or loaned from the Health Office.
- For students who require a wheelchair at school, notify the school nurse.

### **RETURNING TO SCHOOL WITHOUT A DOCTOR'S NOTE:**

We realize that there may be some circumstances where a doctor's note cannot be obtained immediately.

When a student returns to school with crutches, cast, sling, brace, orthopedic boot, wheelchair, knee scooter or other device **without** the required documentation:

1. Attempt to obtain a doctor's note by calling the parent and requesting a note to be faxed while the student remains in the Health Office.
2. If a doctor's note cannot be obtained within a reasonable period of time, notify the Site Administrator.
3. The school district reserves the right to restrict a child's physical activities within the school based on safety.

### **IMPLEMENTING ACCOMMODATIONS:**

For elementary schools, there should be a designated area during P.E., recess, and lunch for students with crutches, cast, sling, brace, orthopedic boot, wheelchair, knee scooter or other device to eat and participate in alternative activities such as board games, puzzles, and activity books. Students are encouraged to bring a friend if space allows.

Individual schools should work with their Site Administrator to provide additional procedures specific to their campus to address the following:

- Early-release passes between classes so students can avoid crowded hallways, locker areas, etc.
- TUSD *Authorization for Medication at School* if medication is required at school (i.e. pain)
- Procedure for use of elevator (if applicable)
- Personal hygiene/bathroom concerns
- Any restrictions
- Other accommodations and instructions (i.e. wheelchair)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Health Office.

## **TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **Parent Information for Returning to School after an Injury or Surgery**

To ensure student safety, all students who return to school with a crutches, cast, sling, brace, orthopedic boot, wheelchair, knee scooter or other device should have a doctor's note which includes the following:

- Date of visit, doctor/provider's signature and stamp
- Any restrictions (P.E., sports, recess, weight-bearing, stairs, etc.)
- Date(s) of restriction
- For crutches, the doctor/provider should indicate that crutches are to be used at school and that the student has been instructed in proper use of crutches. Crutches will not be issued or loaned from the Health Office.

Your student will need to check in with the Health Office on the first day back to school so that accommodations can be made for his/her safety at school. If possible, parent/guardian should accompany the student to the Health Office so that the following may be discussed:

- Early-release pass between classes so the student can avoid crowded hallways, locker area, etc.
- TUSD *Authorization for Medication at School* if medication is required at school (i.e. pain)
- Procedure for use of elevator (if applicable)
- Personal hygiene/bathroom concerns
- Any restrictions
- Other accommodations and instructions (i.e. wheelchair)

We realize that there may be some circumstances where a doctor's note cannot be obtained immediately. If your child returns to school without a doctor's note, please inform the Health Office after arriving at school.

The school district reserves the right to restrict a child's physical activities within the school based on safety.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Health Office.