



The Henry Cort Community College

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Our ref: JEV/HLS

14 October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Access to the First Aid Room in the College Day

At The Henry Cort Community College, we are committed to supporting the health, wellbeing and attendance of all our students. We know that attendance at college is directly linked to students achieving their best academically, but we are also keen to help young people develop independence, resilience and the confidence to manage discomforts during the college day.

This year we have introduced a new system called Medical Tracker, which is updated by our first aid team. One of the main reasons for this was to help us communicate more effectively with you when students are accessing the first aid room for any reason. However, we also wanted to be able to identify when a student is visiting the first aid room frequently and where there is concern, ensuring that the appropriate support and advice is accessed.

In response to our analysis of the use of the first aid room, we have identified that most students visiting this room do not need to go home and are able to manage through the college day. However, we have also identified that a significant number of students are visiting the first aid room expecting to be sent home with minor symptoms. To help ensure that our first aid facilities are available for students who genuinely need them, we would appreciate your support with the following reminders.

Please note:

- If parents or carers have made the decision to send their young person into college, students should not report directly to the first aid room on arrival.
- Wherever possible, we encourage students to remain in college until at least Period 2, unless there is a significant concern.
- A visit to the first aid room does not automatically mean that a student will be sent home.
- If our first aid staff feel that a student is too unwell to remain in college, parents or carers will be contacted.
- Students who feel unwell may be asked to rest for a short while to see whether their symptoms improve before any further decision is made.
- We encourage students to show resilience and recognise that not all aches, pains or feelings of discomfort require medication or immediate collection from college.
- Paracetamol can only be administered after 12:00pm and in line with college procedures and permissions.
- Students should not use their mobile phones to contact parents or carers during the college day. This goes against our safeguarding procedures and may result in a college sanction.

ASPIRE

ACHIEVEMENT * SUPPORT * PERSEVERANCE * INDIVIDUALITY * RESPECT * EXCELLENCE

- Students are expected to treat all first aid, pastoral and support staff with courtesy, kindness and respect always.
- Students should bring a water bottle to college each day, which they can refill at water fountains.

We are proud of the way many of our students demonstrate maturity and resilience when managing minor illnesses and discomforts. By working together, we can ensure that students receive the appropriate support when they need it while maximising their time in lessons and learning.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J.C. Evans".

Dr J Evans
Assistant Principal – Attendance and Safeguarding