



Wednesday 26th February 2025

Dear Families,

We are writing to provide you with an update in relation to the healthcare provision at Ivy House School. As you will be aware, healthcare arrangements are changing, this comes into full effect from Monday 3rd March 2025.

Since September, NurtureCare has been supporting students in school, and we are pleased to inform you that they will now provide an interim healthcare service to ensure continuity of care for all students. We are deeply committed to ensuring that all children and young people have equal access to education. Together, Ivy House School and NurtureCare will implement safe and effective plans to support your child's healthcare needs.

Over the last few weeks, NurtureCare have been working hard to stabilise the future of healthcare provision in schools across Derbyshire. To help define the next steps, NurtureCare are also working for the commissioners (NHS Integrated Care Board) to analyse the future clinical needs, ensuring that the healthcare model remains fit for purpose across the county.

To minimise disruption during this transition period, NurtureCare will maintain as many existing healthcare processes and procedures previously in place. Should any changes occur in the future, we will inform you promptly.

A previous letter provided guidance on sending feeding tubes and syringes to school with your child. These will be sanitized and reused for a full week, helping to reduce the number needed. Please ensure you send several into school so we have enough available. If your child's medication includes a single syringe, we will continue using it for the entire duration of the medication, sanitizing it between uses in line with standard practice.

If there are any changes to your child's medication or care plan, please ensure you provide NurtureCare with a written update from a healthcare professional. Updates can be sent via email or as a paper copy of any letters you receive from health professionals. Please note that NurtureCare do not currently have access to your child's hospital or NHS records, so it is essential that they receive documentation directly from you.

We would like to formally introduce you to the clinical lead nurse, Helen Hettman, who is a senior and experienced nurse in caring for children and young people with complex healthcare needs. You may have already seen her friendly face around the school. She will be in contact with you over coming days to confirm your child's care plan and medication charts and to ask for your consent to share your child's information with her. Please rest assured that all personal and medical information will be securely stored at the school and used only for the purpose of delivering care.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation as Helen settles into her new leadership role. She will have the full support of Ivy House School staff and the senior management team at NurtureCare. If you have any questions, you can contact her at Helen.hettman@nurturecare.co.uk or call the school at 01332 777920 (Option 2 for the nurses' room).

We will continue to provide regular updates on progress, including upcoming coffee mornings, where you will have the opportunity to meet the NurtureCare team and ask any questions. In the meantime, thank you for your continued engagement and support. We are confident that, by working together, we can make this transition as smooth as possible for all students.

Kind regards,

David Ainsworth
Operational Director
NurtureCare

George Turner
Headteacher
Ivy House School

Ian Armstrong
Executive Headteacher
Shaw Education Trust



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