

Illness and Accidents

At Beas Cheerleading we will deal promptly and effectively with any illnesses or injuries that occur while children are in our care. We take all practical steps to keep staff and children safe from communicable diseases.

All parents or carers must complete the **Medical Form** when their child joins the Club, requesting permission for emergency medical treatment for their child in the event of a serious accident or illness.

We will record any accidents or illnesses, together with any treatment given, on an **Incident Record** or **Accident Record** sheet as appropriate, which the parent or carer will be asked to sign when they collect the child.

Beas Cheerleading cannot accept children who are ill. If any children are ill when they first arrive at the Club we will immediately notify their parents or carers to come and collect them. Any children who have been ill should not return to the Club until they have fully recovered, or until after the minimum exclusion period has expired (see table at the end of this policy).

First aid

The Club's designated First Aiders are Berenese D'souza. The designated First Aider has a current first aid certificate. First aid training will be renewed every three years. To ensure that there is a qualified first aider present and available at all times when the Club is running, other members of staff will also receive first aid training. We will take into account the number of children and layout of the premises to ensure that first aiders are able to respond quickly to any incident.

The location of the first aid box and a list of qualified first aiders are clearly displayed at the Club. The designated First Aider regularly checks the contents of the first aid box to ensure that they are up to date, appropriate for children and comply with the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981.

The manager will ensure that a first aid kit is taken to all performances and or competitions and that at least one member of staff on the outing holds a current first aid certificate.

Procedure for a minor injury or illness

The first aider at the session will decide upon the appropriate action to take if a child becomes ill or suffers a minor injury.

- If a child becomes ill during a session, the parent or carer will be asked to collect the child as soon as possible. The child will be kept comfortable and will be closely supervised while awaiting collection.
- If a child complains of illness which does not impair their overall wellbeing, the child will be monitored for the rest of the session and the parent or carer will be notified when the child is collected.

- If a child suffers a minor injury, first aid will be administered and the child will be monitored for the remainder of the session. If necessary, the child’s parent will be asked to collect the child as soon as possible.

Procedure for a major injury or serious illness

In the event of an athlete becoming seriously ill or suffering a major injury, the first aider at the session will decide whether the cheerleader needs to go straight to hospital or whether it is safe to wait for their parent or carer to arrive.

- If the cheerleader needs to go straight to hospital, we will call an ambulance and a member of staff will go to the hospital with the athlete. The staff member will take the athlete’s **Medical Form** with them and will consent to any necessary treatment (as approved by the parents on the **Medical Form**).
- We will contact the cheerleader’s parents or carers with all urgency, and if they are unavailable we will call the other emergency contacts that we have on file for the cheerleader.
- After a major incident the manager and staff will review the events and consider whether any changes need to be made to the Club’s policies or procedures.
- We will notify the child protection agencies in the event of any serious accident or injury to a child or young person in our care as soon as reasonably possible and within 14 days at the latest.
- We will notify HSE under RIDDOR in the case of a death or major injury on the premises (e.g. broken limb, amputation, dislocation, etc – see the HSE website for a full list of reportable injuries).

Communicable diseases and conditions

If a case of head lice is found at the Club, the athlete’s parents or carers will be discreetly informed when they collect the cheerleader. Other parents will be warned to check their own children for head lice, but care will be taken not to identify the athlete affected.

If an infectious or communicable disease is detected on the Club’s premises, we will inform parents and carers as soon as possible.

If there is an outbreak of a notifiable disease at the Club, we will inform the local health protection unit, HSE under RIDDOR (if appropriate).

Useful contacts

Health Protection Unit: 0344 255 3861

RIDDOR Incident Contact Unit: 0845 300 99 23

This policy was adopted by: Beas Cheerleading	Date: 3 rd September 2018
To be reviewed: 1 st September 2019	Signed: B.D’SOUZA

