

Document Title :	Conjunctivitis Policy	Document Ref. Number :	RBS/SC/P030
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Section :	School Clinic	Version:	2
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1. PURPOSE:

This policy will give guidance on the management of students in school that present with signs of conjunctivitis.

2. SCOPE:

The aim of the policy is to prevent the spread of infection from conjunctivitis from one student to another within the school.

3. TARGET AUDIENCE: RBS Staff, and Parents

4. SYMPTOMS: Signs and Symptoms of conjunctivitis/pink eye can include

- Redness in the white of the eye
- Thick yellow discharge which may cause sticking together of the eye lids especially after sleep
- White or green discharge
- Itchy or burning eyes
- Blurred vision

5. POLICY:

5.1. Presentation of a young student to the school clinic.

1. If the child is in FS1, FS2 or Year 1 and they have the above symptoms parents will be contacted and asked to collect their child from school. Parents will be advised to seek a medical review. Young children may not be able to adhere to the strict hygiene measures that are required with suspected conjunctivitis and therefore spread of the infection could occur within the school.
2. Parents will be advised how to care for the infected eye, (hand hygiene, not sharing towels at home, bathing eyes in cooled, boiled water, not rubbing the affected eye).
3. The student can return to school 24 hours after the infection has cleared up or 24 hours after treatment has started.

5.2. Presentation of an older student to the school clinic Year 2 upwards

1. The nurse will discuss hand hygiene techniques with the student and when to practice these measures (when they have rubbed their eye or touched their face).
2. Parents will be given advice on how to care for the affected eye (hand hygiene, not sharing towels, and bathing eye in cooled, boiled water, not rubbing the affected eye).
3. The parent will be contacted, informed of the symptoms and advised to see the doctor for a medical review.

6. Responsibility:

Licensed School Nurse

7. References:

1. www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Conjunctivitis-infective/Pages/Treatment.aspx
2. www.cdc.gov/conjunctivitis

