



Serial casting: care advice for parents and schools

Information for children and their parents from Paediatric Physiotherapy



Parent advice

Your child has just had a plaster placed on one or both of their legs. Please carry out the following after care advice.

1. Regularly check their toes

- Check that they are a pink colour
- Check that they are warm to touch
- Check that they are the normal size and there is no swelling
- Do this two to three times in the evening of the day of application and then once every day following that.

2. If their toes are swollen, very cold, blue, or very red remove the plaster as follows

- Soak the plaster and their leg(s) in a bucket of warm water or a bath for five to 10 minutes.
- Gradually unwrap the soft-cast and remove the plaster; **or**
- Go to your nearest Accident and Emergency (A&E) department, so they can help you remove the plaster.

3. Keep their toes and plaster dry at all times. **Avoid mud and puddles at all times!!!!!!**

4. Do not attempt to scratch the skin inside their cast. Do not drop anything inside the cast.

5. Practise the enclosed exercises every day.



School Advice

Your pupil's leg is not broken but the tendon behind their heels is a little tight. They are having a series of plasters applied to their foot in order to stretch their tendon. The plasters will be changed every week.

It is very important that your pupil takes weight on their legs as normal, as this is the way the procedure works.

Do's

- Encourage your pupil to stand and walk as usual.
- Carry on with all the normal activities within your pupil's capabilities but do not allow the plasters to get wet.
- Report any discomfort to the parents and physiotherapist as soon as possible, as the plaster may need to be removed quickly.
- Carry out the exercise programme on each day.

Don'ts

- Do not let the plaster get wet at all. No playground play if it is wet outside and, if playing at water tray, protect their feet with plastic sheeting.

Contact details

If you have any questions or concerns about the cast or the advice above please contact us.

- **Physiotherapy, William Harvey Hospital, Ashford**
Telephone: 01233 616085
Email: ekh-tr.paedsmsk@nhs.net

This leaflet has been produced with and for parents and their children

If you would like this information in **another language, audio, Braille, Easy Read, or large print** please ask a member of staff.

Any complaints, comments, concerns, or compliments please speak to your doctor or nurse, or contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01227 783145, or email ekh-tr.pals@nhs.net

Further patient leaflets are available via the East Kent Hospitals web site www.ekhufft.nhs.uk/patientinformation