

HEAD KNOCKS AND CONCUSSION

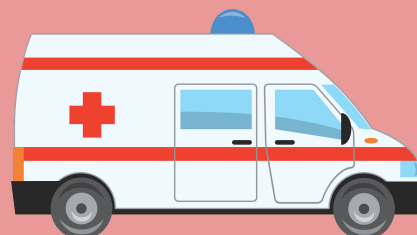
Following a head injury or knock to the head, children and adolescents may be more susceptible to concussion and take longer to recover. The Concussion Recognition Tool 5 ON OUR WALL can be used to assist identification of suspected concussion.

It is not designed to diagnose concussion.

Red flags — call an ambulance

If there is concern after a head injury and if any of the following signs are observed or reported, first aid must be administered and **an ambulance should be called for urgent medical assessment:**

- neck pain or tenderness
- double vision
- weakness or tingling/burning in arms or legs
- severe or increasing headache
- seizure or convulsion
- loss of consciousness
- deteriorating conscious state
- vomiting
- increasingly restless, agitated or combative



Observable signs — take appropriate action

If there are no red flags but signs and symptoms suggest concussion as listed in the Concussion Recognition Tool 5 (on our First Aid Room wall):

- the student must be immediately removed from play or sport and not engage in further activity (for example, returning to a sporting game)
- make contact with parents or carers as per below

Make contact with parents and carers

Whenever the Concussion Recognition Tool 5 is used to assist with the identification of a suspected concussion, parents and carers must always be contacted and the following actions taken:

If concussion is suspected:

- the school must contact the parent or carer and ask the parent or carer to collect the student from school and recommend a medical assessment, even if the symptoms resolve

If concussion is not suspected:

- the parent or carer should be contacted and informed of the injury and told that a concussion is not suspected based on use of the Concussion Recognition Tool 5
- the parent or carer may wish to collect the student from school.

After the event:

Following a confirmed concussion, schools may need to make reasonable adjustments, guided by the student's treating team, including:

- return to learning and return to sport plans
- modifying school programs to include more regular breaks, rests and increased time to complete tasks.