CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT SCHOOL POLICY

Concussion is a mild traumatic brain injury. Concussion occurs when normal brain functioning is disrupted by a blow or jolt to the head. Recovery from concussion will vary. Avoiding re-injury and over-exertion until full recovery are the cornerstones of proper concussion management.

St. Francis Preparatory School recognizes that concussions and head injuries are commonly reported injuries in children and adolescents who participate in sports and recreational activities and can have serious consequences if not managed carefully. Therefore, the school adopts the following policy to support the proper evaluation and management of head injuries. While all staff will exercise reasonable care to protect students, head injuries may still occur. Any student exhibiting signs or symptoms in physical education class, extracurricular activity, or athletic activity shall be removed from participation. The nurse or coach will notify the student’s parent or guardian, who must take the student to be evaluated as soon as possible by an appropriate health care professional.

If a student sustains a concussion at a time other than when engaged in a school-sponsored activity, the school expects the parent or guardian to report the condition to the coach and the school nurse so that the school can support the appropriate management of the condition.

The student shall not return to school or activity until authorized to do so by an appropriate health care professional who will make the final decision on return to activity, including physical education class and after-school sports. Any student who continues to have signs or symptoms upon return to activity must be removed from play and reevaluated by his or her health care provider.