|  |
| --- |
| T:\logo\Capture.JPG  ***Principal: Miss R Robinson***  ***B Ed (Hons) M ED PQH***  ***Tel: 028 38851778***  ***Fax: 028 38852568*** |
| [**info@stmarys.maghery.ni.sch.uk**](mailto:info@stmarys.maghery.ni.sch.uk) |

1st September 2022

Dear parent/guardian

**CONCUSSION AWARENESS – WHO NEEDS TO KNOW?**

The Department of Education has requested that all schools should write to

parents/guardians to highlight the need for you to keep all organisations informed if

your child receives a concussion injury.

Concussion is a brain injury which is usually caused by hitting the head or a fall. It

can happen at any time, anywhere: for example during sports, in the school

playground, or at home.

Concussion must always be taken seriously and it is vitally important that any

child/young person suspected of having concussion should immediately be stopped

from continuing whatever activity they are doing and be assessed by a medical

professional for diagnosis and guidance.

A second injury when a child has concussion can be extremely serious and may

even be fatal. It is vitally important therefore that medical clearance is sought before

your child returns to school/play. Children should not resume physical activities such

as Physical Education (PE), sports or games until permitted to do so by a medical

professional.

Concussion may also affect your child‘s ability to learn at school. This must be

considered and medical clearance should be sought before the child returns to

school. As symptoms vary from child to child, a graduated return to school

programme may be needed.

If your child suffers a concussion in school or outside school, it is vitally important

that you keep all people/organisations with responsibility for caring for your child

informed so that they are aware of the potential dangers and any restrictions that

may apply to the activities your child is permitted to do.

The ‘Recognise and Remove’ leaflet produced by the Department of Education and

the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure is available on the Department of

Education’s website http://www.education-ni.gov.uk and provides guidance on the

signs to look out for.

Keeping everyone informed about concussion is in your child’s best interests and

parents/guardians have a key role in making sure that information is passed on to

their child’s teacher, sports coach, youth leader or other care provider.

Yours sincerely

Miss R Robinson