



## Gastrostomy Protocol

All staff working with gastrostomy buttons and feeds will undertake initial training before they work with them. This will be carried out by the community / school nurse and there will also be opportunities for regular refresher training. A record of staff training will be kept.

A list of pupils with gastrostomy's will be appended to this protocol. It will include the type of button ie Mini/mickey, the expiry date, the french/diameter and length of the tube. School will need to be informed if a pupil is re-measured the parent is responsible for doing this, the community nurses will reorder the appropriate spare button.

Each pupil will have a spare set that will be accessible at all times and should be taken offsite with the pupil when they are out of school.

**Nothing apart from the child's own gastrostomy button can go into stoma.**

If the button becomes partially removed the staff can attempt to gently reinsert it. This may require them to remove the water from the balloon. This should then be taped down and the parent or the Community Nurse can be called to come and re-inflate and test the tube before use.

If the button comes out completely the staff should discard the old button reinsert the new button and tape it down. They should not inflate the balloon . This can only be done by the parent or the community nurse who will be called into school to inflate it .

Our priority is to keep the stoma open.

If what remains inserted looks unusual or not as normal don't put feed down it, contact the parents or the community nurse if the parents cannot be contacted.

If a child has a peg rather than a button the acute treatment team has advised that this shouldn't come out. If this happens the parent should be contacted and the child should be taken to hospital by ambulance immediately.

The community children's nurses can be called for advice with regard to button reinsertion but due to other patient commitments may not be able to attend. The child will need to be taken to their local hospital if neither the parent or the nurses are able to attend.