

Your community, your defibrillator

We are keen to support the community and help make it a safer place for everyone.

Community Heartbeat Trust will manage the defibrillator and ensure, with support from school, that it is well maintained and is always available in case of an emergency.

We would also like some local residents to be key code holders or points of contact if people need support to deal with a victim and so that access to the unit can be obtained as soon as possible in the case of an emergency.

If you would consider supporting us or have any questions, please feel free to contact school.

Good Faith

Automated external defibrillators are now so easy to use that most countries include a 'Good faith' protection under a Good Samaritan law. This means that any person using a AED (if not as part of their occupation) **cannot** be held civilly liable for the harm or death of a victim if they provide improper or inadequate care. The person would be simply acting in good faith and within the limits of their training.

Vandalism

We would like to think that everyone will respect the importance of such a vital piece of life saving equipment. However, the external unit is made of stainless steel and will be bolted securely to two steel posts. It also has a secure key code lock, to which people can only gain access if they contact the emergency services or have volunteered to be a key code holder or point of contact. Since installation, we have not had any incidents.

If you do see anyone tampering with the unit, please report such events to the police or

Meadowhead Community Junior School

Anglesey Street
Blackburn
BB2 4QG
Tel:01254 209871

Email: office@meadowheadjunior.blackburn.sch.uk
Website: www.meadowheadjuniors.co.uk

Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)

at

*Meadowhead Community
Junior School*



*Information for
parents, carers and
the local
community*



*High Aspirations,
Bright Futures*

Tel:01254 209871

Background

A defibrillator is a machine used to give an electric shock to restart a person's heart when they go in to cardiac arrest. Defibrillators are designed to be easy to use by anyone and can give a life-saving shock quickly so that a person has the best chance of survival.

Over 10 000 people collapse and stop breathing every year and for more people to survive cardiac arrest, more public places need to have defibrillators. When someone suffers a cardiac arrest, blood is no longer being pumped around their body and they are clinically dead.



The longer they go without emergency life-support, the harder it is to restart their heart. That is where having an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) close by can make a difference.

The UK Resuscitation Council suggests an AED should be available wherever medical treatment is more than 5 minutes away. That is why we are siting an AED at school.

The Meadowhead AED

In 2015, Water Wings Swimming Club, based at Westholme swimming pool, very kindly donated a Automatic External Defibrillator to school. Money from school sponsored events and a kind donation from Masters of Martial Arts in Blackburn have helped us pay for a watertight cabinet and the cost of installation. The defibrillator was initially intended for use in school but after careful consideration, the governing body felt that because it is such a vital piece of life saving equipment, the whole community should benefit.

As a result, we have teamed up with Community Heartbeat Trust and have placed the AED inside a specially designed unit just outside the main gate at school. It will secured through the fence to posts situated inside the school grounds.

This means that the defibrillator will be available for community use, in the case of an emergency, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. If the need arises and somebody in this area calls the emergency services, the local ambulance control centre will direct them to the defibrillator at our school. They will be given the code for the secure door and be able to gain access to the unit. The defibrillator, as suggested in name, is automatic and talks the person through the process of using it to potentially save someone's life.

school Familiarisation

We are in the process of arranging a familiarisation course. Anyone interested in learning a little more about an AED and how it is used can come along to the school hall, have a cup a coffee and a chat in a nice friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

We are also going to organise for some of our older children to have a similar course in school. The sooner they can use and understand the role of a defibrillator, the better for everyone.

We will let you know the dates for both courses as soon as we have confirmed dates with the course providers.

Meadowhead Community Junior School

Anglesey Street
Blackburn
BB2 4QG
Tel:01254 209871

Email:
office@meadowheadjunior.blackburn.sch.uk
Website: www.meadowheadjuniors.co.uk