

Arrhythmia Alliance

Norman Gate School Council chose to raise money to enable the school to have their own defibrillator.

A defibrillator was felt important as we conducted research to show the impact it could have towards saving lives. Several of the children at Norman Gate School have existing medical conditions such as severe allergies, epilepsy and asthma, potentially increasing their vulnerability to cardiac arrest. It was felt that not only would having a defibrillator benefit the school but also our local community.

Norman Gate School is constantly supporting and helping the children to understand their role within the local community and this has been part of that process. When talking to pupils and staff it was clear that everyone was in full support of this cause. One member of staff felt strongly enough to state 'All schools should have a defibrillator as part of their standard health and safety/medical equipment; they are essential and save lives'.

Increasing the children's understanding and awareness has led on to specific children requesting to undertake first aid qualifications. The Deputy Head informed me that he has been very impressed by the level of discussion and ideas initiated by the School Council. With the children's increased awareness it is hoped this has led to further discussions at home, aided by information within new letters, to continue information being cascaded on to others.