

Luca Safe Concussion Framework (LSCF)

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What is the Luca Safe Concussion Framework

Head injuries are under more scrutiny than ever before and awareness has never been higher. Moreover, an increasing number of products and services targeting schools is making it increasingly difficult to know what best-in-class provision actually looks like. Luca Safe offers a comprehensive, evidence-based structure for managing concussions within school settings. Developed for school leadership teams, safeguarding officers, medical personnel, and policymakers, the framework establishes clear, actionable standards for ensuring the safety and wellbeing of students throughout all stages of concussion prevention, assessment, and recovery.

The framework is organised into seven key domains:

- **Governance and Legal Compliance** – Establishing board-approved policies that align with national safeguarding regulations.
- **Education and Training** – Implementing tiered training protocols for all staff, students, and parents.
- **Reporting and Communication** – Ensuring timely and structured documentation and stakeholder notifications.
- **Clinical Management** – Providing baseline testing, access to clinical expertise, and clearly defined return-to-learn and return-to-play protocols.
- **Academic Support** – Offering tailored educational accommodations to support students during recovery.
- **Technology and Innovation** – Leveraging digital systems and optional wearable safety technologies for effective oversight.
- **Quality Assurance** – Maintaining high standards through audits, stakeholder feedback, and benchmarking initiatives.

By adopting this framework, schools fulfill their legal and ethical obligations while demonstrating a proactive commitment to student health, safeguarding excellence, and educational continuity.

Intended Audience

- Senior Leadership Teams (SLTs)
- School Boards and Governors
- School Trustees
- Designated Safeguarding Leads
- Physical Education and Medical and Nursing Staff
- First Aiders
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinators (SENDCOs)



1. Governance and Policy

1.1 Centralised Policy Framework

- All schools should have a publicly accessible, board-approved concussion policy.
- Annual policy reviews incorporating the latest evidence and legal updates.
 - *Policy to include detailed roles and responsibilities for all staff tiers (governors, SLT, teachers, coaches, medical staff).*
 - *Explicit guidance for boarding/residential care environments, weekend sport provisions and students representing both school and outside organisations (i.e. clubs).*

1.2 Legal and Risk Compliance

- Frameworks aligned with national duty of care and safeguarding regulations.
 - Complete incident documentation maintained for audit and legal defensibility.
 - *Policy should include indemnity cover specifics for external staff/contractors.*
 - *Clarity on GDPR compliance in handling concussion-related medical data.*
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2. Education and Training

2.1 Whole-School General Training

- Annual high-level concussion education required for all staff.
- Digital record of completion monitored by leadership.
 - *Training should include:*
 - *Concussion overview, long and short term risks, signs and symptoms, how to assist in recovery.*

2.2 Tiered Specialist Training

- PE and sports staff receive advanced training in recognition and GRTP (Graduated Return to Play) protocols.
- Mental health and SENDCO staff offered optional advanced modules for pupils with concussion.
 - *First-aid staff to receive short-form recognition response training.*

2.3 Student and Parent Education

- Student awareness through yearly workshops and assemblies.
- Parent materials and briefings provided
- All schools should provide openly accessible information documents for concussion including but not limited to: general concussion information, GRAS (Graduated Return to Activity and Sport) framework, return-to-learn framework, a school concussion provision overview.
- For pupils with a suspected or confirmed concussion schools should provide parents or guardians with clear educational materials and guidance on symptoms, recovery expectations, and warning signs to monitor.

3. Reporting and Communication

3.1 Incident Notification Protocol

- Secure, automated system to alert key stakeholders within 30 minutes of a logged incident which includes external parties such as club coaches and parents.
 - *Structured template for reporting concussions, including time, location, observer account, and initial response.*

3.2 24-Hour Reporting Mandate

- Full incident reports digitally filed within 24 hours, with all relevant documentation.
 - *All reports to be signed off by a designated medical lead.*

3.3 Unified Record System

- Central platform with role-specific access (e.g., parents, teachers, clinicians).
 - *Audit trail for every action, comment, or update logged in the system.*
- School medical staff should have secure access to all relevant incident details, including: how the injury occurred, assessment outcomes, clinician notes, and scheduled follow-up consultations.

4. Clinical Management

4.1 Baseline and Post-Injury Testing

- Annual neurocognitive baseline testing for all students.
- Post-injury assessments to help guide clinical decision making.
 - *Utilisation of neurocognitive and vestibular-ocular motor screening (VOMs) tools.*

4.2 Robust clinical service

- Trained internal or access to external specialist clinicians for virtual/in-person assessments.
 - *Referral pathway documentation and pre-approved concussion specialists listed.*

4.3 Return-to-sport/Learn Protocols

- Step-by-step medical clearance, cognitive checks, and reintegration plans according to school policy.
 - *GRAS to include typical stages found in England Rugby's Graduated Return to Activity and Sport including: rest, light aerobic, sport-specific, non-contact, and full contact stages.*

4.4 Referral Network

- The school should have established procedures for contacting clinicians trained in concussion assessment and management, and should be able to guide families and stakeholders to appropriate specialist services when necessary.

5. Academic Support

5.1 Return-to-Learn Plans

- Temporary academic accommodations integrated with SEND ('Special educational needs and disabilities') support according to in-house return-to-learn policy.
- Case manager assigned post-incident.

- *Standard adjustment templates according to each school's in-house policy for teachers (e.g., reduced homework, screen time, extended test times).*

5.2 Psychological Monitoring

- Routine optional standardised daily screening for symptoms and mood
 - Mental health referrals where necessary.
 - *Weekly symptom self-reporting forms until full return.*
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6. Technology and Futureproofing

6.1 Digital Management Platforms

- Use of tools like Luca for incident logging, tracking, and analytics.
- Moving away from a paper-first system to include a centralised online database for convenience and ease of use.
 - Automated reminders and escalation flows built into the system.

6.2 Wearable Safety Technology (optional)

- Pilot use of impact sensors in high-risk sports.
 - *Explore feasibility of real-time force monitoring (e.g. smart gumshields/headgear)*

6.3 Predictive Risk Analytics (optional)

- Use anonymised data for injury trend analysis and prevention planning.
 - *Establish key indicators (e.g., activity type, time of day, location) contributing to risk modelling.*

7. Quality Assurance

7.1 Annual Auditing

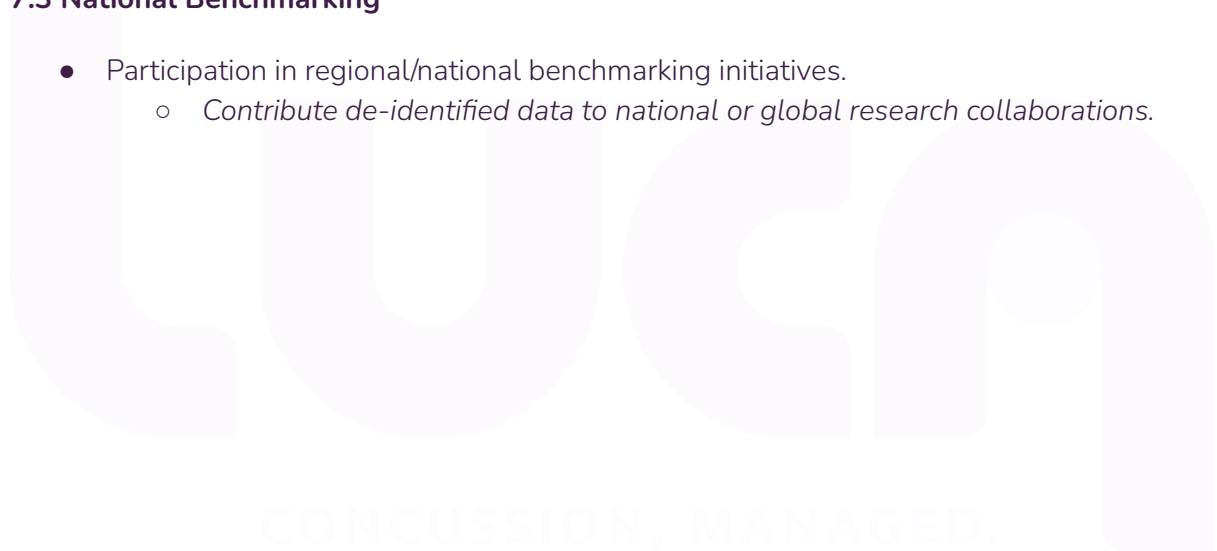
- Internal or third-party audits of policy compliance and incident trends.
 - *Audit should include case sampling, policy alignment check, and stakeholder interviews.*

7.2 Feedback and Improvement

- Stakeholder feedback incorporated into the annual Concussion Safety Report.
 - *Anonymous surveys issued post-incident for parents and students.*

7.3 National Benchmarking

- Participation in regional/national benchmarking initiatives.
 - *Contribute de-identified data to national or global research collaborations.*



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Version Log

Version	Author	Date	Notes
1.0.0	Luca Health	16/5/2025	First Version
1.0.1	Luca Health	20/5/2025	Updated intended audience

