# Guidance for care of a child who has a history of SUPRAVENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA (SVT) in nursery/school



Palpitations can also cause the child to complain of dizziness.

> **SVT** is a heart rhythm disorder that can cause a very fast abnormal heart rate.

# Symptom:

The child complains of palpitations.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Keep the child calm, sit them in a quiet place and ensure a responsible adult stays with them.

## STEP 1: (

If the child feels ok after few minutes they can return to normal activities. No restrictions after or between episodes are necessary.

Palpitations can also cause the child to complain of tiredness and breathlessness.

> **Palpations** are due to a rapid heart rate.

You can feel this by placing your hand on the child's chest.

Name of child:

Date of birth:

Parent/guardian contact details:



## STEP 2: C

If episode does not stop after a 10-15 minutes (or the child feels unwell) inform parents/ quardians.

## STEP 3: 6

If episode persists beyond 45 minutes arrange for the child to be taken to the local A&E department. This is not a 999 emergency as long as the child is not unwell.

#### The treatment of SVT

- The child can try closing their nose, mouth & breathing out strongly (valsava manouevre)
- Regular medication (rarely prescribed in school hours)
- A radio frequency ablation in hospital (for children over 7 years)

More information is available at: www.leedscongenitalhearts.com