

## Health Policies

The school health service functions to promote and protect the health, safety, and wellbeing of students and to assure a healthy environment that supports academic growth. Procedures for administering medication and first aid are established by the administration in cooperation with the school nurse.

### Injury at School

All serious injuries should be reported to the health clinic for treatment. The school nurse or health assistant will administer emergency first aid and notify parents.

### Illness at School

If an elementary student becomes ill during school, he/she will be sent to the clinic with a form. This form will be sent home with the student at the end of the day. It will note symptoms, treatments, and any medications that were given. This helps the parent avoid overmedication. The school nurse or health assistant will notify parents if the student needs to go home.

### General Guidelines for Specific Conditions

The following are health issues for which the student will be sent home, referral to a doctor, guidelines for returning to school, and practical precautions:

- *Fever, Vomiting, Diarrhea, and Excessive Coughing* – Parents will be notified and expected to pick up their children when they are running a temperature of 100 degrees or more. Children running a temperature of 100 degrees or more, has vomiting, diarrhea, or excessive coughing in the morning should be kept at home. Student must be free of a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea for at least 24 hours before returning to school.
- *Conjunctivitis, (Pink Eye), Strep Throat, and other contagious illnesses requiring antibiotics* – Children who have “pink eye” or other contagious conditions must be treated with antibiotics for 24 hours before returning to school.
- *Skin Rashes* – In making the determination to exclude a student from school due to the presence of a rash, communicability to others is a primary consideration. The school nurse may be able to identify the condition using assessment; however, on occasion a visit to the doctor may be necessary to determine whether a rash is contagious. Students referred to a physician for determination of communicability must have a physician’s note that clears the student to return to school prior to or at the time of return to school.

- *Cuts and Open Wounds* – should be covered for that student’s protection as well as the protection of others. If wounds are draining or wounds cannot be covered, parents may be asked to keep that student out of school until the wound can be safely covered or cared for. On occasion, a visit to a physician is necessary to determine communicability of the wound. Students referred to a physician for determination of communicability must have a physician’s note that clears the student to return to school prior to or at the time of return to school.
- *Head Lice* – Parents are notified if their student is found to have head lice. Parents must treat the student according to product instruction prior to returning to school. The student will be checked for live lice upon return to school. The student can attend school during the intervening week and must be free of live lice. Most lice treatments are a two-treatment system, 7-10 days apart. After the second treatment, the student will be rechecked and must be free of live lice. Several additional head lice checks will occur in the following weeks. Classmates and close friends are checked for head lice. All effort is used to maintain the confidentiality of the affected student.
- *Head Injury* – Any head injury will result in an immediate phone call to parents explaining the situation and current symptoms. Please note that an EMS will be called at any time if the nurse deems the situation necessary. Parents who prefer to give consent for an EMS to be called immediately in the event of a head injury must sign the EMS Consent form.

## **Medication Policy**

- All medication (both prescription and non-prescription) must be taken to the office and will be stored in the health clinic.
- All medication, even over-the-counter must be in the original container.
- A permission slip for all medication signed by the parent is required. Information should include the name of the medication, dosage, time and condition for which the medication is needed.
- Prescription medication must be stored in the health clinic. In addition to the parent permission form, prescription medications must be in the original physician’s or pharmacy container, labeled with the physician’s’ name, the students name, name of the medication, amount to be given, the time to be given, and the duration the medication is to be taken. Pharmacies will often give duplicate containers on request so that parents can send only the amount needed at school to the school.