

District -Wide Swansea School Health Services

Please read this communication and keep it handy so you can refer to it should the need arise.

Medication:

1. No "over the counter" medications will be given at school unless a doctor's order is obtained.
2. All medication must be kept in the Nurse's Office.
3. Only medication ordered by your doctor will be given.
4. Long Term Prescription Drugs will be dispensed only by a school nurse. Return the parent's consent form and the doctor's written order form in order for the medication to be given.
5. Short Term Prescription Drugs (for example antibiotics) need only parent's written permission and medication in the Original Prescription container.
6. **All Medication must be in the original prescription container or it will not be given.**
7. Some pharmacies will provide an extra container for school use upon request.
8. Parents/Guardians must bring the medication to the nurse – medication is not to be brought in by the students.

Reporting Illness:

If your child is ill with a contagious disease, notify your nurse.

Strep Infections, Conjunctivitis and a Diagnosis of Chickenpox: require a doctor's note to return to school.

If your child has a problem with head lice at home please be sure to notify the school nurse. This information is kept confidential.

Fever:

If your child has a fever of 100 degrees or higher, he/she **MUST remain at home** until the child is **fever-free for a period of 24 hours without the use of Tylenol or Motrin.**

Immunizations:

If your child receives any type of immunization booster, make certain the nurse is notified in writing with a note specifying date and type of immunization signed by the doctor.

Health Programs and Mandated Screenings:

1. Vision and Hearing Screening will be done in all grades. If your child fails either of these screenings, you will receive a notice and a doctor's form. Please return the doctor's form when your child has been examined.
2. Growth Screening: your child's height and weight will be measured each year. BMI will be calculated from the student's height and weight in Grades 1, 4, 7 and 10. The results are kept confidential in each student's health record. This information will not be sent home unless it is requested by the parents.
3. Postural Screening – Grades 5 –9. The nurse and/or physical education teacher will view your child's back for any curvature of the spine. Parents will be notified if their child should see a physician. Parents can choose to have the school doctor see the child or their own doctor. If you choose to have your own physician see the child, please return the completed doctor's form to the nurse.
4. SBIRT (Screening, Brief intervention, and Referral to Treatment). The nurse will ask questions that may identify high risk behavior surrounding substance use in Grades 7 and 9.
5. Physical Exams must be completed within one year prior to entrance into school or within 30 days after school entry. Thereafter, students must have a physical exam in grades Pre K, K, 3, 6 and 9.
 - a. Transfer students must have had a physical within the year of transfer.
 - b. School physicals will be scheduled two times a year, fall and spring.

***** School Health Policy for Exclusion from School due to incomplete immunization for Medical and Religious**

Reasons: If a student who is not fully immunized is exposed to a diagnosed case of a Vaccine Preventable Disease, he/she will be excluded from school according to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Regulations. The most common diseases include, but are not limited to the following: Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Chickenpox and Pertussis. As soon as a physician confirms the diagnosis, the parent will be notified. Specifics regarding the time of exclusion vary with each illness and will be explained when pertinent.

School Health Records

Please be advised as of the 2007 school year all student health records will be distributed to all seniors at the end of the school year. **Please be advised there will no longer be copies available at the school after graduation.**

Revised: November 2003, January 2008, February 2009, Jan 2015, Jan 2017, Jan 2018

Evaluated: January 2004, May 2004, January 2008, February 2009, May 2010, Dec 2012, June 2013, November 2013, Jan 2016.

District-Wide Swansea School Health Services Continued:

Emergency Medications/Standing Orders:

In the event of an emergency the nurse can administer the following medications:

- Benadryl may be given for a mild allergic reaction.
- Epinephrine (EpiPen) may be given for an unexpected allergic reaction. (This order is not meant to replace the physician's order that is required for those students with a known allergy to foods or insect bites).
- Naloxone (Narcan) can be administered for an individual experiencing a life threatening opiate overdose in a school setting.

Notice to parents regarding Religious Exemptions:

The State of Massachusetts has notified us of a change with the Policy for Religious Exemptions regarding a child immunization status. If you have this Religious Exemption on your child's health record, please note that effective with the 2018-19 school year any child that has a Religious Exemption must renew their status annually. An annual renewal means that parents/guardians must write and sign a new religious exemption. All religious exemptions should be dated by the signing parent/guardian to allow for monitoring of annual renewals each school year. Annual renewal of exemptions should occur at the start of each school year.