

School Nursing is a specialized practice of professional nursing that advances the well being, academic success, and life long achievement of students. It is the goal of Newburyport Public School nurses to promote health and safety, intervene with health issues and collaborate with other school members to build an active learner. The school nurse is available for consultation. Please call for any questions or concerns, but specifically for the following reasons:

- *New medication or change in current medication.
- *New medical diagnosis or change in health status.
- *Serious illness, injury or hospitalization.
- *Fractures, sprains, casts or sutures.
- *Diagnosed with a contagious disease such as strep throat, conjunctivitis, pertussis (whooping cough), Chicken pox, flu, or head lice.
- *Changes within the family that may impact the student while in school.
- *Assistance obtaining health insurance.

Screening:

- *All students prior to entering kindergarten are required to have a recent physical exam, and completed immunization record.
- *A physical exam is also required for grades 4, 7 and 10.
- *Screenings for vision and hearing are performed in grades K-7, 9 and 11. Postural screenings are performed in grades 5-9.

Things to Know ...

*Parents are expected to alert the school nurse in the event of a contagious disease so that the nurse / teacher can take necessary steps to protect the health of other students and staff.

*If your child is absent from school, you are expected to provide a written excuse at the time of return.

*If your child is excused from physical education class, notification in writing is mandatory by parent or physician. Written notification is also required for returning to PE.

*If a student is injured or becomes ill at school, the school nurse or school designate will notify the person listed on the confidential health form. If the illness or injury is severe, the student will be transported by ambulance to the nearest hospital.

*Students that do not have insurance may be eligible for Mass Health or Children's Medical Security Plan.

Note: Massachusetts law requires all residents to carry health insurance.



Please avoid scheduling doctor or dentist appointments, lessons or games during school hours. It is disruptive to the student's schedule and learning. It also sends a message that school is not important.

After School Activities...

*There is no nurse available during before-school and after-school programs and organized activities. (e.g. sports or club activities) If an emergency arises, the staff will activate the emergency medical system and the student will be transported to the nearest hospital.

*After school personnel can not deliver medical procedures or obtain or administer medication. Children with special health care needs are encouraged to carry necessary items (e.g. inhalers, Epi-pens,) during these times.

*If your child requires assistance during an after school event, please contact your child's school nurse for guidance.

Students should remain home for...

*A fever that causes chills, sweats, or a temperature greater than 100 within 24 hours.

*Vomiting or diarrhea.

*Inflamed eyes, yellow or green drainage.

*Head lice or nits.

*Bacterial infections not treated for 24 hours with antibiotics.

*Rashes: Common infectious diseases with rashes are most contagious in the early stages. A child with a suspicious rash should return to school only after a health care provider has made a diagnosis.



School personnel are mandated reporters. This means that the Department of Social Services requires all school personnel to report any concerns of neglect or abuse.

Medication...



*Prescription and non prescription medication that will be taken during school hours *must* be delivered to school by the parent in the original container.

*Written permission from the parent / guardian *must* be sent to the nurse for any student who will be taking medication during the school day.

*Prescription medication such as insulin, inhalers or Ritalin requires authorization from the Physician.

*Parents should request duplicate bottles from pharmacies. One for home and one for school use.

***No Medication may be administered that is brought in plastic bags.**

*Consent forms may be obtained from the Health Office or online at

<http://newburyport.k12.ma.us/nurse/index1htm>

Health Offices

Brown

Lynne Rurak, RN 978-465-4436
978-463-4643 fax

Bresnahan

Beverly Heinze-Lacey, RN 978-465-4432
Nurse Leader 978-465-2112 fax

Molin Upper Elementary

Michelle Rybicki, RN 978-463-8212
978-463-3280 fax

RAN Middle School

Denise Gough, RN 978-465-4447
978-465- 4074 fax

Newburyport High School

Lorna Hossack, RN 978-465-4440
978-465-2666 fax

Additional Information ...

Student/ Parent Services

Anna Jacques Hospital 978-463-1000
Merrimack Valley Hospital 978-374-2000

Adolescent Services

Child at Risk Hotline 800-722-5200
Dept of Social Services 978-469-8800

Counseling/ Family Problems

Dept of Mental Health 978-372-7744
Health Education Services

978-388-7038

HIV Service Coordinator 800-752-2437
Mass Eating Disorder Association

978-532-7701

Parental Stress Hotline 800-632-8188
Samaritan 866-624-3578

Drug and Alcohol

Alcohol Anonymous 978-373-9514
Nat. Substance Abuse Hotline

800-378-4435

Narcotics Anonymous 866-624-3578

Other Services

Community Action
Amesbury 978-388-2570
Haverhill 978-374 2197

Community Service of NBPT
978-465-7562

Health Quarters 978-521-4444
Hugh Doyle Resource Center

978-465-1688

Pettengill House 978-463-8801
Poison Control 800-682-9211

Red Cross 978-462-8243
Salvation Army 978-465-0883

Children's Medical Security Plan
1-800-322-1448

Newburyport Public Schools Health Services



Special Health Needs Management
First Aid
Illness Assessment
Emergency Preparedness
Safety
Health Appraisals
Screening
Health Education
Medication Administration
Crisis Intervention
Health Liaison

