



School Health Policy

The health and safety of the students at Boys' Latin is a top priority. Therefore, please consider the following guidelines when making decisions about your son's health and welfare:

Should I keep my child home from school because of illness?

If your child exhibits the following symptoms, please keep them at home:

- Has a temperature of 100 degrees or more. (Your son should remain at home in bed for the day and should be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school as many children will rebound with a temperature.)
- Has been diagnosed with a strep infection. (Your son should be on antibiotics for 24 hours before returning to school.)
- Has vomited during the night and into the morning.
- Has a persistent cough, chest congestion, or discolored nasal discharge.
- Has persistent diarrhea during the night and into the morning.
- Has red swollen eyes that itch and are draining pus.
- If your child has a rash you cannot identify.

All communicable diseases should be reported to the school, even if students develop them over the weekend and are well enough to return the school by Monday. It is important that the Boys' Latin Health Office track infectious disease occurrences in order to provide parents with the information about their prevalence and any needed precautions. The following are some examples of illnesses that should be reported to the health office: chickenpox, strep throat or scarlet fever, pink eye, ringworm, Fifth's disease, impetigo, and scabies.

What if my son needs to take medication while at school?

It is the policy of Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School to administer medications only to students with prior written permission from the parent/guardian and physician. A medication administration form may be obtained from school offices or the health office. All students must have a medication administration form on file before medications may be administered to them. **Verbal permission over the phone is not acceptable.** A new medication administration form must be filled out if there are any changes in the student's medication. All medications must be in the original container, clearly labeled with the student's name, physician's name, medication name, dosage and frequency. All medications must be submitted to the office. No medications may be kept in the student's desk or locker. At the end of the school year, it is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to pick up any unused medications. Medication left after the end of the school year will be properly disposed of in accordance with school policy. Boys' Latin of Philadelphia will not provide pain relievers for students.

What happens if my child gets sick or injured while at school?

If advanced emergency treatment is required, Emergency Medical Services (911) will be called. In the event of minor injuries or illnesses, the Health Office will contact the parent/guardian. If the parent/guardian is not available, the Health Office will call the emergency contacts provided. It is for this reason that it is very important to keep the school updated with current phone numbers.

Does the school provide any health screenings?

All Boys' Latin students receive some level of health screening annually. The chart below provides information on the timing and type of screenings provided:

SERVICE	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Notes
School Nurse Services	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Maintenance of Health Record	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Immunization Assessment	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Medical Examination	X					X		*Required on original entry- K or 1st grade
Dental Examination		X						*Required on original entry- K or 1st grade
Growth Screen	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Hearing Screen		X				X		
Scoliosis Screen	X	X						6th grade physical may be used in lieu of 6th grade screen
Tuberculin Test				X				*Required on original entry- K or 1st grade. Unless approved to discontinue
Vision Screen-Far Visual Acuity Test	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Vision Screen-Near Visual Acuity Test	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

What vaccinations are required for my son to attend school?

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires that every child receive certain vaccinations before entry into school. Please make sure that you have addressed these requirements with your healthcare provider before the son starts school. If your son does not have adequate immunizations, he may have to miss school until they are completed. The following details Philadelphia Immunization Requirements as provided by the City of Philadelphia's Department of Public Health:

Vaccines are required on the first day of school. A child must have at least one dose of all vaccinations, or risk exclusion from school. A child may have a documented medical, religious, or philosophical exemption from these vaccinations. Even if exempt, a child may be excluded from school during an outbreak of vaccine-preventable disease.

All Grades	Doses	Notes
Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (DTB/Dtab/DT/Td, or Tdap*)	4*	1 st dose at/after age 4
Polio (OPV/IPV)	4	4 th dose at/after age 4, at least 6 months after previous dose
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR/MMRV)	2	At/after age 1
Hepatitis B (HBV)	3	
Chickenpox (Varicella/MMRV)	2	At/After age 1*
6 th and 7 th Grade	Doses	Notes
Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4)	1	At/after age 2
Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap)	1	At/after age 7
12 th Grade	Doses	Notes
Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4)	2	If 1 st dose given at age 16 or older, only 1 dose is needed to enter 12 th grade

*Only 3 doses of Td-containing vaccine are necessary if series is started at or after age 7, and at least one dose is Tdap

If a child does not have required doses, they must within the first 5 days of school:

- Receive the next dose, if medically appropriate
- Have a parent/guardian provide a medical plan if the next dose is not the final dose of the series
- Have a parent/guardian provide a medical plan if the the next dose is not medically appropriate

REFERENCE: The Pennsylvania Code-Subchapter C. IMMUNIZATION §23.81, amended May 28, 2019, effective August 1, 2011, and from the *Philadelphia Board of Health Regulations Governing the Health of Newborns, Children and Adolescents*, published 2009.

Who do I contact with questions regarding my son's health care?

Please contact Ms. Donna Griffin, School Nurse, at dgriffin@boyslatin.org or 215.387.5149, ext. 231 at the high school or ext. 303 at the middle school.