



## Health and Medication Policy

In our on-going efforts to maintain a safe and healthy environment for you and your children at AAA, please carefully review the below information formulated according to the guidelines of Cheltenham Township.

### Health Records

The Pennsylvania School Health Law requires all students to have Medical and Dental exams within one year prior to a student's entry into the grade in which an exam is required-  
Medical Exam (for all new students & Kindergarten, 6th grade)

Dental Exam (for all new students & Kindergarten, 3rd grade & 7th grade)

If the student's examination history does not meet these timelines, please make the necessary arrangements to have the examinations. If a student is entering the School District of Cheltenham Township and/or the 6th grade, I recommend that the aforementioned examinations be conducted by a family physician and/or dentist, who is familiar with the student's health history and would be in the best position to recommend immediate steps for necessary remedial care.

Under regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the following immunizations are required for all students, K-12, as a condition for attendance to school. Those children whose immunization record is incomplete or not provided will be excluded from school.

Children IN ALL GRADES need the following on the FIRST DAY:

- 4 doses of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (DPT) (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)
- 4 doses of polio (4th dose on or after 4th birthday and at least 6 months after previous dose given)
- 2 doses of measles, mumps, rubella (German measles)
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of varicella (chicken pox) or evidence of immunity

A Tuberculosis (TB) test with negative reading is required of any new enrollee from foreign countries, homeless, TB endemic area and any situation deemed high risk.

Children ENTERING 7th grade need the following on the FIRST DAY:

- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) on the first day of 7th grade
- 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV) on the first day of 7th grade

If a child does not have all the doses listed above, needs additional doses, and the next dose is not medically appropriate, the child must provide a medical plan (red and white card) within the first five days of school for obtaining the required immunizations or risk exclusion.)



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All students must be completely immunized before admission. Ancillae-Assumpta Academy follows the policy of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia (#S 305) with regard to immunization exceptions: “The policy of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia with respect to vaccinations, requires all children to be vaccinated against a wide variety of diseases. Exceptions are not granted, except for medical reasons.”

## **Medicine**

A student must have both a physician’s note and the written permission of parent/ guardian to take either prescription or non-prescription medicine in school. A parent/ guardian must deliver medications to the Health Office in the original container from the pharmacist accompanied by a signed note from the doctor and parent with complete instructions for dispensing. Students may not carry prescription or non-prescription medicines to or from school, or on their person during the school day (except inhalers and special needs medications).

\* If your child takes prescribed medication at school, please use an Authorization for Administration of Medication at School form. This form must be current for each school year; therefore, any previously signed forms from past school years are invalid.

## **Fever**

If your child has had a fever we request that s/he remains at home until his/her temperature is normal for a full 72 hours without medication (Tylenol or Motrin).

## **Communicable Diseases**

Please notify the Health Office if your child contracts a communicable disease such e.g. chicken pox, whooping cough, or meningitis.

## **Conjunctivitis**

Students showing symptoms of conjunctivitis will be asked to see a physician regarding diagnosis and treatment and must be seen by the school nurse before returning to school.

## **Pediculosis (head lice)**

The National Pediculosis Association has established that no treatment for head lice is completely effective for killing all nits. Both the American Association of Pediatrics and the National Association of School Nurses advocate that "no-nit" policies should be discontinued. "No-nit" policies that require a child to be free of nits before they can return to school should be discontinued for the following reasons:



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- Many nits are more than 1/4 inch from the scalp. Such nits are usually not viable and very unlikely to hatch to become crawling lice, or may in fact be empty shells, also known as casings.
- Nits are cemented to hair shafts and are very unlikely to be transferred successfully to other people.
- The burden of unnecessary absenteeism to the students, families and communities far outweighs the risks associated with head lice.

At Ancillae-Assumpta Academy, if a student is found to have live lice (louse) or nits within 1/4" from the scalp line, the student should be treated. We require that treated students be examined by the school nurse before returning to school.

- If a student has lice, that student's siblings will be checked for head lice. The whole grade will not be checked.
- The parents will be called, informed and asked to pick up the student.
- The school nurse will go over treatment and review Recheck-In Policy with parents at time of pickup.
- A letter from the principal will be sent to parents in student's grade only.
- An e-mail will be sent informing the Administration.
- The student will be rechecked back into school.
- The student will not be allowed to return to school if there are still live louse. Parents will be told to continue nit removal and follow up treatment in 7-10 days and recheck on a weekly basis throughout the year.

### **Special Needs**

In an effort to meet your child's health needs at school, please notify the Health Office with all pertinent medical information. We rely on and thank you for your cooperation in adhering to these policies regarding Medicines, Pediculosis, Conjunctivitis, Fever, Communicable Diseases, and Special Needs.

### **Food Allergen Policy**

The food allergen policy is to ensure a healthy and safe learning environment for all students. Foods that commonly produce allergic problems are peanuts and tree nuts, shellfish and fish, milk, egg, soy, and wheat. The Academy adheres to a strict food allergen policy. No food items can be brought to school or on a school field trip without consulting the Health Office or Food Service Coordinator. Only non-edible treats are permitted for any birthday or class celebration held at school. Any questions, please contact the Health Office.



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## **Crisis Management**

The Crisis Management Plan is designed to respond to any crisis regarding health, weather, disaster, or security. In our efforts to be prepared we continue to have on hand emergency supplies, and Automatic External Defibrillators. Several of our staff members and coaching personnel are certified in CPR and AED training. In the event of an emergency or disaster, it is recommended that your child be prepared for 72 hours without outside intervention. Many students take medications at home and during school hours. To be able to administer medications for 72 hours, the school requires the Authorization for Administration of Medication at School form completed by the physician and parent for a 24-hour day for 3 days. It is required to have the medication in the original labeled bottle that includes the doses to be administered. Only medications that are essential to your child's health are suggested to be available during a crisis situation. This decision is between you and your health care provider.