



# New English School المدرسة الإنجليزية الحديثة

Towards Global Citizenship

## Student Health Policy

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## **Introduction**

All activities related to student health are conducted under the direction of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

A parent's decision to keep a child home from school when he or she is sick can sometimes be a difficult one. No parent wants to interrupt their child's learning. However, if he or she has a serious illness, it's important for the child to stay home to rest.

Some illnesses for which the pupils are definitely requested to stay at home are:

- fever (38 and above)
- influenza
- uncontrollable coughing
- vomiting
- diarrhoea
- conjunctivitis
- contagious disease

By taking this step, parents can help their children get better faster as well as prevent the spread of infections and viruses in the classroom.

## **Policy Aims**

**This policy ensures that the pupils and staff of the New English School are given adequate medical attention when necessary.**

### **Information regarding pupil and teachers medical needs**

- A list of all special medical problems is distributed to all staff. This must be updated by each nurse when necessary and re-distributed to all staff. Parents have a continuing obligation to inform the school of any changes in their child's health status to avoid serious consequences that may occur if we lack the information.
- All staff have been given basic first aid training, however, the nurse should be consulted in all but the most basic of cases.

## **Procedures for incidents in school**

- in the first instance the 'walking wounded' go immediately to the nurse's office
- if students are in class and complain of being unwell a note is issued to the student in primary and they are sent to the clinic
- if students are in class in secondary and complain of being unwell a Nurse request is recorded in iSAMS which notifies the nurse that the student will attend. The student is given a note to return to class when they have seen the nurse, if they are fit to return. The teacher may ask for the student to be accompanied by a responsible student or a colleague in some cases
- infant children must be accompanied by an adult and carry the 'nurse visitation' slip
- if the student cannot get to the clinic safely the nurse is notified and will go to the student
- when any student sees the nurse the problem is investigated and a record is entered in the record book

## **Treatment will vary and usually falls into one of the following categories**

- student can return to class with a note
- student must go home, in which case the parent is contacted who makes arrangements accordingly. This may include taking the student to clinic/hospital for tests or treatment
- the case is such that hospital treatment is urgent. In this instance an ambulance is summoned and the student will be assessed by paramedics
- if the student is to go directly to hospital, the student is accompanied by the nurse and parents will meet their son/daughter at the emergency department of the hospital

## **Medication administered at school**

- the nurse may/will administer medicine as directed by a doctor
- medicines for pupils must be delivered to the nurse directly
- written and signed authorisation for all medicines must be provided by each parent, therefore providing safe medication administration for each child
- medicines must be labelled with the child's full name, class, the medication name, the reason for taking it, the dosage and time to be given
- medicines must also be collected from the nurse directly at the end of the day by a parent or guardian
- any medication required to be given on an on-going basis for a chronic health problem has to be accompanied by a physician's prescription

## **Returning to school after illness**

- a doctor's approval is required for the return of pupils to school that have been absent due to a contagious disease or suspected contagious disease
- a doctor's note/report is required for any pupil who was sick and missed more than three consecutive school days
- pupils should be physically able to participate in all school activities on his/her return to school. Cases that include injuries that exclude the child from P.E must be dealt with by the nurse, and the class teacher/PE teacher informed

## **Parental responsibility**

- parents must inform the school immediately if their child has contracted any contagious disease, or if there is a sibling in the family who has a contagious disease. This will help prevent the spread of illness to others
- injuries or health problems that occur do not occur under school supervision are a parent's responsibility. These students should not be sent to the School Nurse for diagnosis or treatment advice. Only FIRST AID treatment is given at school

- medications that are given only one time per day, every 12 hours or medications that can be administered before or after school hours, should not be administered at school
- if a child is authorised to self-carry and use life saving medications as prescribed by their physician, then a written and signed authorisation is also requested and should be handed to the appropriate nurse
- parents of primary children who use life saving medications must meet with the nurse to discuss their child's situation and medication

### **Medical administration**

- statistics are kept by each nurse of which students actually attend the clinic and sent to the relevant Head Teacher each month
- medical checks and vaccinations from the Ministry of Health are coordinated by each nurse. No vaccination is administered without the written consent of a parent
- as a general preventive medical measure, the school will arrange for the periodic screening of pupils by the school nurse who will examine each pupil's general appearance, height, weight, sight and dentition at the direction of the Ministry of Health
- the nurse may also check for indications of infection and infestation periodically and, if apparent, advise parents accordingly

### **Safeguarding**

- **In the event that treatment or examination by a school nurse identifies a safeguarding concern the matter will be referred to the designated safeguarding lead**

## **Duty hours**

There are three school nurses. They are on a rotating duty schedule ensuring a nurse is on duty from 7am to 4pm when the school is open for students.

The duty times are:

7am to 2.30pm

7.30am to 3pm

8.30am to 4pm