

Communicable Disease

A student may be excluded from school if he/she is known to have a communicable disease or parasite known to be spread by any form of casual contact and considered to be a health threat to the school population. To help maintain a safe and healthy learning environment, the local health department recommends that students with an oral temperature of 100 degrees or higher be excluded until fever-free for twenty-four hours, without fever controlling medication. Additionally, it is recommended that students with gastrointestinal symptoms be excluded for a twenty-four hour period following the last episode of vomiting and/or diarrhea. The School Principal and/or School Nurse shall report to the local Health Department all incidents of potential and confirmed cases of communicable disease, in accordance with the state's Notifiable Disease Law. The Superintendent shall have the authority to exclude any student, and such exclusion shall be for a period of time as may be prescribed by the local health department, school nurse, or physician. In all such cases, a statement of clearance from the Department of Health, school nurse, or a physician shall be required before the student may re-enter school.

Body Fluid Procedures

It is the position of the Madison County School system that a student entering Pre K-K programs show independence and self-care skills, specifically in the area of toileting. It is considered age appropriate behavior upon school entry to expect "toileting independence".

If a student has special needs and requires assistance with diapering or toileting, this should be discussed with the teacher and school nurse. Toileting needs will be addressed both during the time period the student is being evaluated for services, and after he/she is found to qualify, in his/her Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan. Every effort will be made to meet these needs in the least restrictive environment. In the best interest of both the student and the employee, the school nurse or other school staff member designated to assist the student with toileting needs will do so in the presence of another staff member whenever possible.

Environmental/Safety Concerns

Exposure to other's body fluids is not safe practice. All body fluids are considered potentially infectious and can transmit a variety of communicable diseases. Therefore, it is not viewed as staff responsibility to change or clean a student if feces and/or urine are involved. In the case of stomach contents (vomit), the school custodian has been instructed in the proper procedure for cleanup. If a student vomits, the parent will be notified to pick the student up from school.

Parent Responsibility-General Education Classes

If a student does not make it to the bathroom and soils his/her clothes with urine or feces, the parent will be called to come to the school to clean the student, dress the student in clean clothes and take the soiled clothing off-campus. Once cleaned, the student may return to the classroom. In cases where the student self-cleans, the same procedures apply.

Soiled clothes must be stored in a plastic bag until the items can be picked up by the parent. Clothing soiled with the body fluids cannot be transported via the school bus and will be available for parent pick up for one additional day after the incidence had occurred. Otherwise, the soiled clothing will be discarded.