WINSTON COUNTY SCHOOLS
PROVIDA FUTURI
EST. 1908

Things the School Nurse Wants You to Know

1. Don't ignore symptoms of illness or injury. If your student has a fever, don't just give them fever reducing medication and put him/her on the bus anyways. Vomiting/diarrhea and temp greater than 100.1, earns a minimum 24-hour quarantine at home. Don't send your student to school if they are sick; you are just spreading germs and they need rest.
2. The school nurse isn't a stand-in pediatrician. If you suspect your student is not well, their primary care doctor should get the first call. The school nurse can assist in carrying out treatment plans during school hours. We can't diagnose and can only provide our opinions.
3. Yes, those forms are important. We really do read all those health forms, please complete them, thoroughly and on time.
4. Rules are rules. Nurse practice policies, school district rules, state regulations and health department requirements are not up for debate. Any medications brought to school must be in the original container/bottle, never opened, by an adult and accompanied by a medical order from a doctor or authorized medical provider. This includes all over-the-counter medications for your student's use only. Immunization requirements are set by the state health department. We do not make the rules nor the exceptions to the rules.
5. Follow up is part of the job. When we send home multiple notices or call to ask you have you followed up on a vision or hearing screen failure, know that we are not trying to harass you. In the best interest of your student, the health department requires us to report back to them what follow up was completed. Our goal is to maximize learning.
6. Every student should have spare clothes. All students should have extra clothing in their lockers, no matter the age. The need for a change of clothes goes beyond a preschooler having an accident.
7. It takes a team to keep students healthy. A nurse works as a team member to promote a safe and healthy environment for you and your student. We can only do our best at this job if we have all the information. Talking to teachers, coaches and counselors to make sure the student is safe and well taken care of during school is our goal. We will talk to your students about healthy habits at school and hope you'll reinforce these things at home.
8. Don't be shy. If you have a health concern for your student, please stop by to see us. Ask for an appointment if you need extra time.
9. Frequent fliers don't fly under the radar. It's important that your student attends school every day. Nurses understand that when your child visits often, it's probably not the tummy ache they say it is.

Call the nurse if something is going on at home. Together, we will figure out the best way to get students back in the classroom. They are at school, to be in class and learn. Frequent nurse visits get in the way of consistent instructional time and progress. A nurse may make a quick call to ask whether you think your student can get through the day; sometimes, a little encouragement from home may be all they need.

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