

HEALTH SERVICES LETTER



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to a new school year! Our Health Services team is excited to partner with you to ensure your child stays healthy, safe, and ready to learn. We have updated our procedures to make them clearer for our families. While full details are available in the Student and Parent Handbook, this letter highlights the most important steps for a successful and healthy year together.

When to Stay Home

Helping prevent the spread of illness is a community effort. Students will be sent home if they have contagious symptoms, including (but not limited to):

- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Fever of 100.2F or higher
- Congestion or persistent cough
- Shortness of breath
- Unexplained rash

They may return to school only after being symptom-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications (such as Tylenol or Motrin/Advil). Please be aware that students sent to school with these symptoms or who return too soon without a doctor's note/clearance may be sent home.

Chronic Health Conditions

If your child has a chronic health condition (such as anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes, or seizures), an updated action plan signed by a physician must be provided every year. These forms can be found on the District Health Services website. To ensure safe care, all action plans, doctor's orders, medications, and equipment **must be provided within the first 2 weeks of school**. Failure to provide these items will result in the parent providing the care at school or the student being excluded until all necessary items are received by the school nurse.

All school health forms are available on the ECBOE district website at

www.effinghamschools.com/healthservices

Medications at School

If medication is required during school hours, it must be delivered by a parent/guardian to the school clinic in its original, labeled, and current pharmaceutical container. Students are not allowed to transport any medications in their bookbags (with the exception of cough drops). Please note that herbal, alternative, or dietary supplements are not permitted to be given or self-administered at school as they are not FDA approved. Additionally, no more than a 30 day supply of medication should be left with the school.

Immunizations

Georgia law requires all students to have a current Georgia Immunization Certificate (Form 3231) or a valid medical/religious waiver on file. Students who do not have a current, complete form will not be allowed to enroll or will be withdrawn from school.