



Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Cherry Hill Elementary School Nurses would like to welcome families of both new and returning students and take this opportunity to review important information for the 2026-2027 school year. The following is an overview of school health services and policies for elementary school.

Emergency Contact Information/Health Record Update Forms: The School Nurse Health Record Update form will be available on the Genesis parent portal beginning in August for the upcoming school year. If your child has received a new medical diagnosis such as asthma or develops a new food allergy, include this information in the update and contact the school nurse directly. **Be sure to update all emergency contact information in Genesis with your school's main office.** This information is critical to have on file if your child is injured or gets ill at school. **It is imperative to have the names and phone numbers of adults to contact in your absence if your child becomes sick or injured during school.**

Illness: To determine if your child should stay home, use these guidelines or contact your school nurse. **Students who become sick at school should be picked up as soon as possible (within an hour of being called).**

- Fever of $<100^{\circ}\text{F}$ or higher: Keep your child home for a minimum of 24 hours after the temperature returns to normal (98.6°F) without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- Vomiting or Diarrhea: Keep your child home for a minimum of 24 hours after the last episode.
- Rash: If the cause is unknown, please check with your healthcare provider before sending your child to school.
- Based on your child's demeanor, ask yourself, "Is my child available to learn/play/participate in school activities?" If the answer is "no," consider keeping them home as they may be getting sick.

Medications: that need to be given during the school day **must** be administered by the nurse. State law dictates that **all medications (including over-the-counter remedies such as cough syrup, eye drops, and ointments, etc.) have a written order** from your child's healthcare provider along with a completed parental permission form **before** the medication can be administered at school.

- Ibuprofen and Acetaminophen may be given with written parental permission via the Genesis parent portal.
- **Medication orders must be obtained each school year.**
- All medications should be brought to the nurse's office by a **parent or trusted adult**, in the original container(s). Medications **cannot** be accepted if they are not in the original prescription or manufacturer-labeled bottle. **Please do not send medications to school with your child.** Please check the expiration date of the medication before bringing it to school.
- An **Asthma Action Plan** is required for students who have asthma and will be using an inhaler or nebulizer at school. Students at the elementary school level may be permitted to self-administer if age-appropriate and required documentation is on file from the healthcare provider and parent.
- An **Allergy and Anaphylaxis Plan** is required for students who have a life-threatening allergy. Students at the elementary school level may be permitted to self-administer if age-appropriate and required documentation is on file from the healthcare provider and parent.
- A **Diabetic Medical Management Plan** is required for students who have a diagnosis of diabetes. This plan provides instructions for overall management, including diabetic life-threatening events in school.
- A **Seizure Action Plan** is required for students who have a seizure diagnosis. This plan provides instructions for management in the event of a seizure in school.

Immunizations: Please submit entrance and updated immunization records as your child receives new immunizations. Students who are missing required immunizations may be excluded from school.

Health Screenings: Students may be screened for height, weight, vision, hearing, blood pressure, and scoliosis. Referral notices for follow-up with a healthcare provider will be sent home for any concerns. If you would like your child to be exempt from any of these screenings, complete the ***MEDICAL PERMISSION FOR HEALTH SERVICES*** form through the parent portal in Genesis at the beginning of each school year.

Orthopedic Injuries: Students with casts, immobilizers, boots, or crutches must be reported to the nurse prior to the student going to his/her classroom.

- A healthcare provider’s note must be brought to the nurse with the diagnosis.
- **A note of clearance from the prescribing healthcare provider is required if a timeframe is not included in the original excuse. This is necessary for your student to resume activities that were restricted by the prescribing healthcare provider.**

5th grade parents ONLY:

- During your child’s 5th-grade physical exam, consider having the healthcare provider complete the Medical Eligibility Form for sports. Middle school is a great time to try new activities, and having the form on file prevents any delays. This form can be submitted to your child’s elementary school nurse. **Please note: Medical Eligibility is valid for 365 days from the date of the exam.**
- The New Jersey Department of Health updated its immunization guidance. The 6th-grade immunization requirement is now a requirement for grade 7. Students must receive one dose of Tdap and one dose of the meningococcal vaccine, both given at age 10 or older prior to grade 7.

If you have any special concerns, questions, or information to share about your child, please contact your child’s elementary school nurse. We look forward to a wonderful school year.

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