FORT BEND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Health Services District Clinic Guidelines

Dear Parents and Students:

A Registered Nurse and LVN are assigned to each high school campus in Fort Bend Independent School District, and a Registered Nurse is assigned to each middle and elementary school campus. The school clinic is available to assist with the medical/health needs of each student. Please read the procedures and guidelines which follow.

**CLINIC PROCEDURES**

A parent/guardian will be notified if a student is unable to remain at school or if an emergency arises requiring that he/she be taken to a medical facility. If a student must be transferred to an emergency facility before you arrive, a representative from the school will remain with the student until your designated person arrives.

**It is required that illness/injury occurring at home be taken care of at home and that students do not go directly to the clinic upon arrival at school.**

**A student will not be allowed to remain in school if he/she complains of any of the following:**

• temperature of 100.0 or greater
• vomiting: two or more episodes in a 24-hour period
• diarrhea: three or more loose stools in a 24-hour period
• an undetermined rash
• feeling too ill to remain at school

**A student may return to school when:**

• Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications
• Diarrhea free for 24 hours without the use of diarrhea suppressing medications
• Vomiting free for 24 hours unless a doctor's written documentation that the vomiting is not a result of an infectious disease and the child is not in danger of dehydration
• Rash is gone and absence of fever for 24 hours or has been identified as non-communicable by a physician licensed to practice in the State of Texas

If a student must leave school due to illness, the parent/guardian is responsible for transportation. If you are not available, the person you designate in Skyward will be notified to pick them up. Facilities for keeping your child are limited; therefore, it is important that your child be picked up promptly.

**MEDICATION POLICY (Beginning 2024-2025 School Year)**

**All prescription and over-the-counter medications require an MD order.**

- Recent input from the Board of Nursing (BON) about school nurses administering medication based on parents' written request can be summarized succinctly: »A. parent"s.request.is.not.sufficient.by.itself.for.nurses.to.administer.medication¡.This.is. true.for.all.nurses.in.every.setting¡"

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR SCHOOL NURSES: Regardless of what is stated in their district's Board Policy FFAC or the student handbook**, a school nurse should have a signed order** (from MD, DO, APRN, PA, dentist, or podiatrist) before administering any medication (prescription or OTC) to meet the standards of the Nursing Practice Act. This includes oral and topical medication (such as cortisone or other 'itch' creams, antibiotic ointment, Orajel, cream or gel with lidocaine, sting relief pads, etc). Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action from the Board of Nursing.

You can find order forms at https://www.fortbendisd.gov/departments/behavioral-health-wellness/school-health-services/student-health-forms

We currently have standing orders for topical medications including, but not limited to, hydrocortisone cream, antibiotic ointment, Bactine, and salt for gargle/rinse. Please reach out to your campus nurse if you have any questions.

**Returning to school after illness or injury**

When returning to school after an absence, the student must bring a note from the parent/guardian explaining the absence. Students who must show a physician's release to re-enter school must take the completed form to the school nurse before going to class.

**TEMPORARY DISABILITIES**

Any student who needs assistance with getting around the campus must bring a note from the parent/guardian or a physician's statement describing ability/modifications needed and for how long. Five-minute passes may be issued to assist injured/disabled students in crowded hallways. Physical education/Recess exemptions will be given at the parent's request for one week only when indicated. PE/recess exemptions for periods longer than a week require an M.D. note.

If you have any questions, please call the school clinic.