WARDLAW + HARTRIDGE
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Subject: Student Absences and/or Illnesses

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please be reminded of the procedures for student illness, which are maintained to promote the best health for all our students. Any time a student is out for any reason, a parent/guardian must call the appropriate divisional administrative assistant to notify them of the absence and reason for the absence. Any student out of school for illness including surgery, injury, dental, medical, or mental health issues for three or more days must have a signed doctor's note allowing the student to return to school.

Please note there are case-by-case situations, which also may require a medical note, or for a student to be sent home, even when the absence is only for 1-2 days. Please note the following information:

- Any time a student has a procedure/surgery under anesthesia, a doctor's note must state the student can return to school (with the date to return noted), and under what conditions (no gym, yes full sports).
- Any situation where a student requires an emergency room visit, or a 911 call, will need a medical note to return to school.
- Mental health issues requiring a clearance note will also be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- Students with a fever (defined as 100.0 F or above), diarrhea, or vomiting - even once - must be home for at least 24 hours and cannot return to school until symptom-free for at least 24 hours without the use of symptom-reducing medications.
- Students with rashes require medical clearance by a doctor before being in school.
- Students sick at home outside of school hours should not be sent to school the next day if they had any of the prior or following situations:
- Students with "strep" throat must be home for 24 hours on medication, before returning to school with a doctor's note.
- Students with an eye infection or "pink eye" must be home on antibiotic eye drops for 24 hours and need a medical note stating they are able to return to school.
- Please call or email division assistants and the school nurse (afarese@WHschool.org) to report an absence.
- Please forward all medical/absence notes to thuertas@WHschool.org

▪ COVID specific illness that is mild does not require a medical clearance note, unless it is a moderate or severe case. Please contact the school nurse.
▪ If your child is recovering from cold/flu/ or has a lingering cough, it would be preferable for you to have your child/young adult wear a mask in school.

Please also refer to your child's divisional guidelines in the student handbook. The parent and student handbook is available on our school website at WHschool.org; go to Academics, then click Division, Student & Parent Handbook. The policy is an overview of the minimum requirements. The nurse also addresses individual situations that arise, which may require a doctor's clearance, or for a student to be sent home, as circumstances unfold.

In the interest of keeping our school community well, please do not send a child or young adult to school that is sick. We need to be respectful of each other's well-being. Please do keep us informed of your student's absences.

Respectfully,
Tatiana Huertas
The Wardlaw+Hartridge School