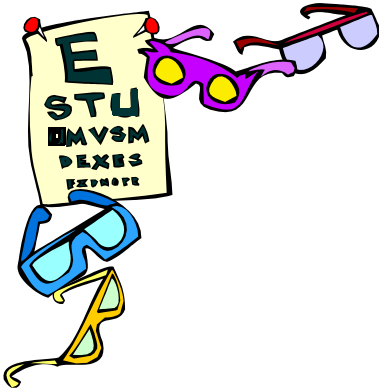


Downingtown Area School District Health Services Parent Handbook



Every Child Deserves a School Nurse



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We welcome you and your student to the Downingtown Area School District.

This handbook is to inform you of the health services mandated by the state of Pennsylvania and provided by the certified school nurses. Please review and keep this booklet available for reference. If you have any questions, please call the certified school nurse at one of the schools listed on the back cover. With your help and cooperation, we can assist each student to reach their full potential by recognizing that health and learning go hand in hand.

Sincerely,
DASD Certified School Nurses



EMERGENCY INFORMATION:

Emergency information is kept on file in the nurse's office for each student. The emergency information is used to safely care for your child(ren) and to contact the parent/guardian if a student becomes ill or sustains an injury at school. It is our first and most important resource in an emergency. The medical information is completed via a web based "Info Snap". Prior to school, your family will be sent an email with directions about accessing the website. It is important to complete all sections by the given deadline. Please notify the school nurse when there is any change in your child's health or in the contact information.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATIONS:

It is recommended by DASD that no medications be given during the school hours. Most medication can be given before and/or after school hours. If any medication must be given in school, it must be in its original container and a note or letter containing the following:

1. Current date
2. Student's full name, grade and teacher
3. Name of medication and dosage
4. Time(s) that medication is to be given
5. Date(s) that medication is to be given
6. Illness/condition requiring medication
7. Signature of parent/guardian
8. Signature of Physician (no stamped signatures can be accepted. Electronic signatures are permissible.)



According to the State Board of Nursing, no medication can be administered in school except by written request of a physician. According to DASD medication guidelines, a physician

authorization is required for administration of prescription and over the counter medication not on the approved list.

Parent/guardian signature is required for the administration of ALL medications. Any non-prescription medication will not be administered for more than five consecutive days.

New medication orders are **REQUIRED FOR EACH SCHOOL YEAR**. Medication orders must be dated after June 30 for the new school year. All orders must be dated.

ILLNESS/INJURY DURING SCHOOL HOURS:

When a student becomes ill or sustains an injury during school hours, the school nurse will provide care as designated in the district guidelines. If emergency care is deemed necessary for the student, school personnel will attempt to contact parent/guardian or any of your designated emergency contacts, including the doctor. If unable to contact them, DASD may make whatever arrangements necessary in an emergency at no expense to the school district.

WHEN TO KEEP THE STUDENT HOME:

When a student presents any of the following symptoms during the night or in the morning, he/she should stay home. Students will be sent home who demonstrate these symptoms as well.

- Diarrhea (3 or more times)
- Fever - 100 degrees or more (should not return to school until fever free for 24 hours without the use of a fever reducing medication)
- Vomiting
- Rashes with fever
- Pediculosis (head lice)

These symptoms are forerunners of many different illnesses. Students who show symptoms of the following communicable (contagious) conditions (including but not limited to) will be excluded from school and will be readmitted to school after 24 hours of appropriate treatment and a doctor's note:

- Conjunctivitis (pink eye)

- Impetigo
- Pediculosis (no active head lice) – proof of treatment required
- Pinworms
- Ringworm
- Strep Throat



STATE REQUIRED HEALTH SCREENING PROGRAMS:

1. Height, weight, BMI, and vision screening – K-12th grades
2. Hearing screenings – Kindergarten through 3rd grade, 7th, and 11th grade.
3. Scoliosis – 6th grade is performed with the 6th grade physical and in 7th grade the certified school nurses will check at school.
4. Physical examinations - required on original entry into the school system, regardless of grade and in 6th and 11th grades. Copies of camp, driver license, or PIAA physicals are acceptable to meet this requirement. It is imperative that an updated immunization record be submitted with all physicals. Physicals are mandated prior to moving onto the next school year.

You are encouraged to use your family doctor for these examinations to provide continuity of care for the student. School physical examinations will be provided for those students not seen by their family physician. You will be notified of the date and time of the school examination.

STATE REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS:

Pennsylvania state law requires written proof of the following immunizations or disease **by the first day of school at any grade level:**

- 4 doses of tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday) (usually given as DTP, DTaP, DT or Td)
- 4 doses of polio (4th dose on or after the 4th birthday and at least 6 months after previous dose given)
- 2 doses of measles, mumps, rubella (usually given as MMR)
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of Varicella (chickenpox) or evidence of immunity

Children entering 7th grade need to provide the most current immunization record to the school before the first day of school. 7th grade students need the following additional immunizations on the first day of 7th grade:

- 1 dose tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap)
- 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)

Children entering 12th grade:

- Second dose of meningococcal conjugate (MCV) on the first day of 12th grade (unless first dose was given after age 16 years)

FOOD ALLERGIES or DIETARY RESTRICTIONS:

If your child has a food allergy or special dietary restrictions and will purchase food in the cafeteria, please contact the Food Service Director to discuss your child's needs and the food service procedures.



DENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM:

As part of the Downingtown Area School District dental hygiene services program, students in various grades receive dental health

education by the district dental hygienist. Dental evaluations (screenings) are given by the district dental hygienist to students in kindergarten, 3rd grade and 7th grade. It is our hope that the school dental health program will assist students in establishing good dental health habits.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE:

Student accident insurance is available at low cost to parents/guardians. Information is sent home at the beginning of each school year or can be located on the DASD website under Business Office. Contact the guidance office for information concerning other insurance assistance or medical referrals, if there is a financial concern.

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH/BREAKFAST:

The Downingtown Area School District participates in the National School lunch program. Lunch time meals are available to students from eligible families. Applications are sent home at the beginning of each school year with every student. If needs change during the school year, applications may be obtained from the Food Service Department at the high school. All information is confidential. All free and reduced lunch applications are returned to the Food Service Department.

SPORTS PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS:

P.I.A.A regulations require a physical examination for each athlete. For further information regarding sports physicals, please contact athletic office or go to the DASD website for additional information.

DOWNINGTOWN AREA SCHOOLS:

Beaver Creek Elementary School	610-269-2790
Bradford Heights Elementary School	610-269-6021

Brandywine Wallace Elementary School	610-269-2083
East Ward Elementary School	610-269-8282
Lionville Elementary School	610-363-6580
Pickering Valley Elementary School	610-458-5324
Shamona Creek Elementary School	610-458-8703
Springton Manor Elementary	610-942-8950
Uwchlan Hills Elementary School	610-269-5656
West Bradford Elementary School	610-384-9030
Marsh Creek 6 th Grade Center	610-646-0080
Downingtown Middle School	610-518-0685
Lionville Middle School	610-524-6300
Downingtown High School West	610-269-4400
Downingtown High School East	610-363-6400
STEM Academy	610-269-8460