

# District Medication Policy

The Eastern Lancaster County School District recognizes that, under certain circumstances, it is necessary for students to receive medication during school hours. Whenever possible, medication should be given to students at home, before or after school. Medication administration will follow, whenever possible, the procedure below and on the consent form. The "Medication Administration Consent Form" needs to be filled out completely prior to the administration of medication. The form can be found on our school web site or from the school nurse.

**Prescription medications** must be delivered in the original container with the label prepared by the pharmacist or physician and will be administered in accordance with the order from a physician and written parent consent. Any medication that is a controlled substance (such as Ritalin) must be delivered to the school by the parent/guardian.

**Over-the-counter medication** must be delivered in the original container with the directions and expiration date clearly legible, and will be administered according to the labeled instructions with written parent consent and for not more than five (5) days. If the medication is to be administered longer than 5 days a physician's order is required along with the written parent consent.

- Students are expected to come to the health room at the appropriate time to take the medication.
- All requests for medication administration must be renewed at the beginning of each school year.
- All medication must be kept in the nurses office. Specific prescribed medication (i.e. inhalers and EpiPens) may be carried by the student only after proper paper work is complete and the nurse gives permission.
- The nurse is authorized to administer or decline to administer a medication based on best nursing practice.

**View our website for additional information and forms:**  
**[www.elanco.org/departments/nursehealth-services](http://www.elanco.org/departments/nursehealth-services)**

# *GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING YOUR CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL*



**EASTERN LANCASTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Health Services**  
**[www.elanco.org/departments/nursehealth-services](http://www.elanco.org/departments/nursehealth-services)**

Garden Spot Middle/High  
Nurse: 717-354-1559  
Fax: 717-354-1166

Blue Ball Elem.  
Nurse: 717-354-1525  
Fax: 717-351-1440

Brecknock Elem.  
Nurse: 717-445-8600  
Fax: 717-351-1441

New Holland Elem.  
Nurse: 717-354-1520  
Fax: 717-351-1442

# GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING YOUR CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL

*What do you do when your child complains of not feeling well? A decision must be made to send your child to school or to keep your child at home. Here are some guidelines (not medical advice) to help you make the decision.*

## **FEVER**

No child with a fever of 100.4 degrees or greater, should be sent to school. Before they can return to school the child's temperature must remain below 100.4 degrees for 24 hours without the use of a fever reducing medication (Tylenol, ibuprofen, Motrin, Advil, etc.).

## **COUGH / COLD**

The common cold presents the biggest problem for parents. Usually, a cold is not a reason to stay home. However, a child with a hacking cough and a feeling of congestion and achiness belongs home even if your child does not have a fever. Your child does not need to stay home for the duration of the whole cold. If cough drops are needed, the medication policy must be followed. Studies have shown that it is just as beneficial for children to bring a water bottle to use for cough relief, as cough drops. Please consider this alternative.

## **SORE THROAT**

If your child complains of a sore throat and has no other symptoms, your child may go to school. If white patches or fever are present, keep the child home and call your doctor. If your child is diagnosed with strep throat they need to be taking the antibiotic for 24 hours before returning to school. Please see the policy on cough drops listed under coughs. A water bottle is also often very effective in controlling the discomfort associated with mild sore throat.

## **EARACHE**

Children with an earache should be seen by a doctor.

## **HEADACHE**

If the complaint is just a headache, the child can usually go to school. Check for any fever. A water bottle is also often very effective in controlling the discomfort. Please refer to the District Medication Policy regarding administration of over the counter medications.

## **STOMACHACHE / VOMITING / DIARRHEA**

If your child is vomiting or has diarrhea they should always stay home. A child may return after no vomiting/diarrhea for 24 hours and must be able to eat solid food without a return of symptoms. If a stomachache is persistent and is limiting a child's ability to function, consult your doctor.

## **CONCUSSION**

For any head injury, children should be evaluated by a physician before returning to school. Please notify and give any doctors orders to the school nurse prior to returning.

## **PINK EYE / Conjunctivitis**

School nurses are guided by State Regulations for the exclusion of students with suspected or diagnosed pink eye. If your child has itchy and drainage or crusted closed eye(s) upon waking, they should not come to school until seen by a physician. Students with pink eye must stay home for 24 hours after they started the appropriate medication.

## **RASH**

This could be a sign of many things. It could be the start of many childhood illnesses such as 5<sup>th</sup> Disease or it could be an allergic reaction or poison ivy. If you don't know the cause, do not send the child to school until your doctor says it is safe to do so.

## **RINGWORM / IMPETIGO**

School nurses are guided by State Regulations for the exclusion of students showing signs of communicable diseases. Students with ringworm or impetigo may return to school if they bring a release form from the family doctor saying they may return.

## **HEAD LICE**

Regularly check your child for nits/lice. Report any findings to the school nurse. Children with head lice are excluded from school until treated. After treatment, they are to be brought back to school by a parent/guardian. Please bring the treatment bottle/box along. The nurse will check the child to see if they may return to school. If you have questions, please feel free to call the school nurse during school hours.

## **Injuries**

A doctor's note is required if your child is unable to participate in physical education/recess due to an illness/injury. The note needs to have an end date, or another note is required when restriction is over. If your child has an injury requiring adaptive equipment (splint, cast, crutches, wheelchair) the school nurse must receive a note from the doctor explaining the necessity and the length of time adaptation is needed.