

STUDENT HEALTH

General Health Room Procedures:

When a student enters the health room, he/she will be evaluated by the health assistant or the school nurse. If the student has a minor injury or illness, he/she will be treated appropriately and sent back to his/her classroom. If the student's illness or injury is more serious and after 15 minutes there is no improvement or there is worsening of the student's condition, a call will be made to the emergency contact for that student. At this point, the health assistant or nurse will request for the student to be picked up from the school. If you are contacted to pick up your student, you must pick him/her up within 30 minutes of receiving a phone call unless other arrangements have been made with the health assistant or nurse. This plan will only change if a deterioration in the student's condition requires immediate medical attention, in which case appropriate channels will be taken to acquire this assistance. Please provide the school with at least TWO emergency contact telephone number(s) and update information if it changes during the school year. Our goal is to maximize the students' time in their classrooms, so we will do our best to treat your child, make sure he/she is able to continue with their education for the day, and send him/her back to his/her classroom. However, we are unable to accommodate children that are significantly ill or injured and need to be outside the school setting for appropriate management of their acute health problems. We are also unable to manage students that are potentially contagious to other students.

Illness:

When considering if your child is too sick to attend school, please keep in mind that your child needs to be able to fully participate in his/her school activities to have a successful day. If he/she is too exhausted, run-down, irritable, or has other behavior changes related to an acute illness or medication prescribed for an acute illness please keep your child home from school. Use the following guide to determine if your child must stay home from school:

FEVER - Must stay home for a temperature of 100.5 F or higher in the last 24 hours. Students must stay home until fever/symptoms resolve **WITHOUT** the use of fever-reducing medications (Tylenol, Ibuprofen, or aspirin).

DIARRHEA - Must stay home if the student has diarrhea along with other symptoms (i.e. abdominal pain, vomiting, fever, etc.). Students must stay home until diarrhea/symptoms resolve without the use of medicine or a health care provider verifies the student is not contagious.

RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES: Your child **MAY** attend school if he/she has a cold that includes a mild runny nose, sneezing, or a mild cough. However, please keep your child home if he/she has an uncontrolled cough, wheezing, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing, or a significant runny nose that requires constant use of tissues.

VOMITING: Must stay home if he/she has vomited two times in the past 24 hours or has other symptoms in addition to vomiting (i.e. fever, diarrhea, abdominal pain, etc.). The student must stay home until resolved without the use of medicine or health care provider verifies student is not contagious.

PINK EYE/CONJUNCTIVITIS: Must stay home if infection prevents the child from participating in normal school activities. For example, if the child is experiencing significant drainage from the eyes, crusting of the eyelids, or abnormal vision due to infection. Pink eye in both eyes is usually caused by a

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viral respiratory infection - please observe your child for signs and symptoms of emerging illness such as fever, cough, rash, or vomiting, and keep them home if they appear unwell.

STREP THROAT: Must be on antibiotics for 24 hours before returning to school. Must have a note from the child's health care provider stating when antibiotics were prescribed.

RASH: All rashes should be evaluated by a healthcare provider before the student returns to school to verify the student is not contagious.

HEAD LICE/SCABIES: May not return to school until 24 hours after the first treatment.

IMPETIGO/MRSA/OTHER SKIN INFECTIONS: May not return to school until 24 hours after treatment has been started. Wounds must be covered if possible.

CHICKENPOX/OTHER VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES: Must have a physician or nurse practitioner's note stating the student is no longer contagious before returning to school.

INFLUENZA: Any student that tests positive for the flu must stay home until he/she is without a fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications (Tylenol, Ibuprofen or aspirin).

Health Requirements & Immunizations:

All students are required to be immunized according to Colorado's immunization laws. These laws can be found here. Your child's vaccination record must be given to the school nurse prior to the first day of school.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/18HvqBO081dPmhWanHxnERIBXHuleKoe/view>

If your child is not immunized according to the state requirements above, you must provide a copy of your child's vaccination exemption form to the school nurse prior to the first day of school. Information on vaccination exemptions can be found here:

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/vaccine-exemptions>

State law requires parents to show evidence of immunization prior to or on the first day of the school year. Students who have not been vaccinated or whose parents have not signed a waiver will be denied admittance in accordance with Colorado Revised Statute 25-4-902. Parents wishing to waive immunization requirements may do so for personal, medical or religious reasons. In order to waive Colorado Revised Statute 25-4-902, parents must sign a card and submit a statement to the school office prior to the beginning of the school year. This is required under Colorado Law (CRS 35-4-903).

If your child's vaccinations are not compliant with Colorado's immunization standards for public school attendance you will be notified in writing by the school nurse. This may include a letter home and/or an e-mail stating that your child is not compliant. You will have **14 days** after you receive this letter to produce one of the following to the school nurse; immunization records that meet the state requirements, a written plan to obtain the required immunizations, or an exemption letter. If the nurse does not receive one

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of these three items then your child's name will be given to the school Administration for possible suspension.

Communicable Diseases/Extended Illness:

Any student having a communicable disease will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis in accordance with guidelines for that disease by both state and local health departments, including the Center for Disease Control, Colorado Department of Health, and El Paso County Health Department.

In such cases as chickenpox, measles, mumps, MRSA, and lice, students will not be allowed to return to school until the school receives a note from a doctor or nurse practitioner stating that there is no risk of infecting others.

Medications Policy:

Please be aware that Colorado State Law mandates our Medication Policy. If your student must take medication during school hours, you must provide the following information before it can be administered to your student:

1. A written order from a licensed health care provider with prescriptive authority. This order MUST include the name of the child, the birth date of the child, the name of the drug, time to be given, the route that the medication is administered (i.e. oral, injected, etc), duration of time to be given, and a prescribing health care provider's signature. The provider may fax this order to the school. PLEASE NOTE: The pharmacy label applied to the medication bottle will NOT suffice for a health care provider's order. Provider phone calls to the school with this information will not be accepted as meeting these requirements.
2. Written permission to administer the medication from a parent or legal guardian.
3. Your student's medication must be in the original pharmacy container, complete with the pharmacy label. Your student's medication WILL NOT be given if it comes in a plastic bag, envelope, unmarked bottle, etc. Medication must not be past the expiration date.

All medications will be kept in a locked cabinet in the health room. Our medication policy applies to ALL medications, including over-the-counter medications.

Health Room Personnel:

Registered Nurse/Advanced Practice Nurse (RN or APN): Registered nurses or advanced practice nurses will supervise all unlicensed assistive personnel and provide additional consultation as needed. Licensed health care providers may only be in the building to provide health services mandated by the state of Colorado such as immunizations, special education assessments, IEP meetings, and health education programs. The nurse will also coordinate with parents the administration of medication if needed during school hours or during school-related activities. Medications may be administered by unlicensed individuals once a plan has been developed by the nurse. Nurses also coordinate the mandated yearly vision and hearing screenings, and they are available to teachers, parents, and students when there is a specific health concern that requires assistance and the development of a health care plan. Nurses also strive to provide health education programs in the classroom as often as possible. If a nurse is not in the building, one will be available to the health assistant and other unlicensed personnel by phone during school hours.

Health Assistants/Unlicensed Assistive Personnel (UAPs): A health assistant is an unlicensed individual that has basic training in first aid, CPR, and medication administration. There also may be other unlicensed personnel that assists with the health care needs of students throughout the day, such as teachers, administrators, or support staff. These individuals are not nurses and may not (according to state law) be referred to as nurses. They will work under the RN or NP and will be available on the school campus 5 days a week to provide prescribed medication, treat minor illnesses and injuries, and call parents if children need to be picked up from school for a medical need. These individuals will be able to contact the nurse for questions or concerns that he/she is unable to or is unlicensed to handle throughout the school day if the nurse is not on the school campus. If you have any major concerns, changes in medications, or medical status of your child this information **MUST** be relayed to the school nurse, not the UAP.

Severe Allergy Safe School Policy:

New Summit Charter Academy is an allergy-aware school. This means we cannot guarantee an allergen-free environment at all times nor can we guarantee that your child will not come in contact with specific allergens. However, we will work diligently with teachers and staff, parents, and other students to support children with food or environmental allergies. If your child has a severe allergy to a certain food or environmental substance that is potentially life-threatening, please make sure the school nurse is aware of this allergy and the potential reactions. We will do our best to recognize the needs of these students and adopt realistic changes in his/her environment to ensure minimal exposure. If your child does have a known, severe reaction to something he/she may come into contact within the school environment it is advised that you speak with your child's healthcare provider about providing an epinephrine auto-injector (i.e. EpiPen) and/or an antihistamine (i.e. Benadryl) for use if your child should have an allergic reaction while on school property. Parents of children with known allergies that require epinephrine are responsible for providing this medication to be used for their individual child according to the medication policy above.

Some of the things we ask every family to do to support children with severe allergies:

1. Please educate your children to **NEVER** share food from their lunch or snack with other children at school. Please educate them that some children will get very sick if they eat certain foods and that they need to help keep their friends safe by not sharing food. They should eat their own lunch/snack only and not give or take food from others.
2. Please remind your children of the importance of washing their hands after they eat. Some children have severe contact allergies to foods - washing hands will help us avoid contamination of the playground equipment and common areas where children with allergies may become exposed.
3. Home-made food will not be allowed for parties or other activities. ALL food brought in for these events must be store-bought and have a label on them listing ingredients and possible allergens.
4. If your child is in an Allergy Aware Classroom, you will receive notification that there is a student present in your child's class with a severe contact allergy and you will be told what foods are not allowed in your child's classroom or at their lunch table. Please do your best to read labels and avoid sending those foods in your own child's lunch/snack.

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5. Food and drinks other than water will not be allowed in common areas, specials classrooms (art, music, Spanish, etc), out on the playground or in the health office unless it is specified in a specific accommodation or health plan. As parents, please also follow this rule when in the school building to avoid contamination of the rooms that we need to keep safe for our children with allergies.