

LEE COUNTY SCHOOLS STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The School Nurses work to ensure the health and well-being of students by developing, implementing and delivering health services and programs. As the nurse works with you this year, we need your assistance and cooperation in preparing for the possibility that your child might need to take medication, need assistance with a medical condition or procedure, become ill, or have an accident during school hours. We hope this letter will explain our procedures.

STUDENT EMERGENCY/HEALTH INFORMATION

Please complete, sign and return your child's **Student Health Information Card**. This information must be updated annually to enable us to contact you in case of an emergency. **If any information changes during the school year, contact the school immediately.**

IMMUNIZATION CERTIFICATES

All students entering or attending Grades Pre-K through 12 in the Lee County School System are required to have a complete Georgia Certificate of Immunization (Form 3231) in accordance with Georgia Law, OCGA 20-2-771. All students must be immunized against vaccine preventable diseases as specified by the Georgia Department of Human Resources, or have medical or religious exemption on file at school.

CERTIFICATE OF VISION, HEARING, DENTAL AND NUTRITION

The parent or guardian of a child who is being admitted for the first time to a public school in Georgia must file a completed Form 3300 with the school when the child is enrolled. Form 3300 is intended to make sure that every child in Georgia is screened for possible problems with their vision, hearing, teeth and nutrition. The earlier these problems are detected, the earlier parents can seek professional help for the child.

SCHOOL MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

The Lee County Schools *Medication Policy* will be followed for all medications given during school hours or school activities. The complete policy can be found on our website <https://www.lee.k12.ga.us/content/student-health> and in Lee County Schools *Code of Student Conduct*.

INDIVIDUAL HEALTH CARE PLANS

If your child has a severe allergy, asthma, diabetes, seizures or other chronic health condition which may require nursing services, **we request you and your child's healthcare provider complete and sign a specific plan of care** to assist us in caring for your child during the school day. All forms are available on the website <https://www.lee.k12.ga.us/content/student-health> or from your School Nurse

STUDENT ILLNESS/INJURY

The main reasons for keeping your child home are he/she's too sick to participate comfortably at school or might spread a contagious disease to other students. **If your child has been diagnosed with a contagious disease, please contact the school nurse so other students' parents and school staff may be alerted of the symptoms.**

Students should stay home from school if there is:

- Fever > 100.4°F (must be fever-free 24 hours **without medication** before returning to school, if source is non-COVID-19 symptoms. COVID-19 symptoms are subject to different guidelines. See next page)
- Vomiting more than once
- Diarrhea
- Frequent cough
- Persistent pain (ear, stomach, etc.)
- Widespread rash
- Chicken pox, until lesions have scabbed (usually 5-7 days)
- Impetigo, Ringworm, or Scabies until under treatment and lesions covered at school
- Bacterial Conjunctivitis (Pinkeye, thick eye drainage and redness of the whites of the eyes) until under treatment

Please contact your school nurse or myself if you have any questions or concerns. Working together, we can promote the health and well-being of your child and ensure they obtain the maximum educational benefit while at school.

Thank you,
Shannon Weeks, RN LCSS Nursing Coordinator
229-903-2221 weekssh@lee.k12.ga.us

REGARDING COVID-19:

If your child has been diagnosed with covid-19, please contact the school nurse so other students' parents and school staff may be alerted of the symptoms.

Symptoms of COVID-19 vary in severity and can include:

- Fever (measured temperature above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, or you feel feverish)
- Chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Steps to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick:

- Stay home. Most people with COVID-19 have mild illness and can recover at home without medical care. Do not leave your home, except to get medical care. Do not visit public areas.
- Take care of yourself. Get rest and stay hydrated. Take over-the-counter medicines, such as acetaminophen, to help you feel better.
- Stay in touch with your doctor. Call before you get medical care. Be sure to get care if you have trouble breathing, or have any other emergency warning signs, or if you think it is an emergency.

When to Seek Emergency Medical Attention:

Look for emergency warning signs* for COVID-19. If someone is showing any of these signs, seek emergency medical care immediately

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

*This list is not all possible symptoms. **Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.**

Call 911 or call ahead to your local emergency facility: Notify the operator that you are seeking care for someone who has or may have COVID-19.

Symptomatic persons with confirmed COVID-19 or suspected COVID-19

- can return to school after:
 - At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **AND** improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); **AND,**
 - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

Asymptomatic persons with confirmed COVID-19

- can return to school after:
 - At least 10 days have passed since the positive laboratory test and the person remains asymptomatic.
 - *Note, asymptomatic persons who test positive and later develop symptoms should follow the guidance for symptomatic persons above*

Asymptomatic persons who have a known exposure to a person with COVID-19 without appropriate PPE

- can return to school after:
 - After they have completed all requirements in the DPH guidance for persons exposed to COVID-19 found at <https://dph.georgia.gov/contact>
 - Of note, if this person is tested for COVID-19 during the 14 day quarantine period, a negative test result would not change or decrease the time a person is monitored, but a positive test would move the person into one of the above categories, based on whether they are still asymptomatic or have developed symptoms.