

Guidelines for School Health Clinics SY20/21

This document is meant to provide guidance on changes to the functioning of school clinics in the 2020/2021 school year, including evaluating ill students and guidance on isolation rooms. It is understood that every school functions differently; how these guidelines are carried out will depend upon a variety of factors such as staffing levels, the location of the isolation room, etc.

The Traditional Clinic Space

- Classroom staff should reference the document titled “Student with Minor Complaints in the Classroom” for common minor complaints and interventions to attempt in the classroom environment.
- Students requiring daily medications will receive their medications from the school nurse/trained office staff in the classroom, to minimize traffic through campus.
- Whenever possible, students needing nursing procedures (tube feedings, catheterizations) will have them done in or near the classroom.
 - If a procedure is unable to be done in/near the classroom, the school nurse will escort the student to and from the traditional clinic space.
- Students with asthma will not be permitted to use nebulizers, due to the potential for aerosolized particles to spread around the environment.
- Students with diabetes who need the nurse for insulin injection, or who need adult supervision to perform their diabetes care tasks, will be supported in the classroom.
- Schools should provide classroom staff with resources to support minor complaints or injuries in the classroom.
- School nurses will carry a “Go-Bag” with them when traveling to see students in classrooms.
- To support the cohorting of students and minimize traffic around campus, classroom staff should contact the school nurse or front office for any student who may need further evaluation in the classroom.
 - Classroom staff can reference the document titled “When to Call the Nurse” for common scenarios where the school nurse may be warranted.
- Only students needing close observation or immediate pick-up will be allowed in the well clinic.
 - Examples may include: injuries, medical complications due to a known medical diagnosis.
 - This does not include students meeting criteria for isolation. These students are addressed below.

Medication Drop-Off at School

- Appointments will be necessary for parents to drop off medications at school.
- The school nurse should meet the parent/designee outside of the school to avoid congregating in the front office. Physical distancing must be practiced always.
- All other medication procedures remain unchanged.

Immunizations

- The State of Florida has not waived any immunization requirements for the 20/21 school year.
 - Incoming Kindergarten students must be up to date for age/grade level.
 - Incoming 7th grade students must have their Tdap vaccine.
- School Health Services will allow a temporary 30-day exemption for parents to meet the immunization requirements, recognizing that some students may have fallen behind on childhood vaccines due to COVID-19.
 - After 30 days, the student must be excluded from school by law.
- As MyPCS Online is an extension of traditional brick-and-mortar public school, all students enrolled in this learning option are required to have the appropriate vaccines as well.

Required Student Health Screenings

- For the 20/21 school year, only vision and hearing screenings will be performed on students in KG, 1st, 3rd, and 6th grades.
 - BMI and Scoliosis screenings have been waived by the State due to the inability to physically distance.
- School nurses and school staff can reference the document titled “COVID Screening Procedures” for information on specific screening procedures.

Student Becomes Ill at School

Based upon recommendations from the Department of Health, the following illness guidelines will apply for symptoms that may be associated with COVID-19. Students may also be sent home for symptoms not associated with COVID-19 as in past year (e.g.; unidentified rash, head injury).

Send home for ONE of the following	Send home for TWO or MORE of the following
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ via no-contact thermometer • Cough (new or worsening) • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing • Vomiting (one episode) • Diarrhea (one episode) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chills • Fatigue • Muscle/body aches • Headache • New decrease in taste or smell • Sore throat • New congestion or runny nose • Nausea

- If a teacher has a concern regarding a student in their classroom, the teacher is to contact the school nurse. The school nurse will come to the classroom and assess the student in the hallway. The school nurse will then determine the next steps based upon the student's needs at the time.
 - If the school nurse is not available, the teacher should contact trained front office staff.
 - Trained office staff should use the flowchart titled "Recommendations for Students with Symptoms" to aid in decision-making. For any concerns, staff should consult with school administration and/or the School Health Services department for assistance in determining next steps.
- If the school nurse/staff member determines a student needs the isolation room while awaiting pick-up, the student must wear a surgical mask.
 - Do not place a mask on anyone who is unconscious or having difficulty breathing, anyone who is incapacitated or unable to remove their mask, or anyone who cannot tolerate a mask due to developmental, medical, or behavioral concerns.

Isolation Rooms and Well Student Spaces

- Criteria for an isolation room:
 - The isolation room will be clearly labeled. Laminated door sign will be provided by School Health Services.
 - All non-essential furniture should be removed from this space to assist with ease of cleaning.
 - Access to this room must be restricted, so ensure that staff do not need regular or routine access to this space.
 - Within the isolation room, students are to physically distance to the greatest extent possible.
 - The school must ensure that any student in the isolation room is monitored frequently, and that staff can see inside of the room. Monitoring of students can occur from outside the door.
 - Non-essential items such as clothes closets and staff refrigerators will need to be relocated.
 - If the isolation room does not have its own bathroom, one must be designated for use by these students and labeled as such. Only students in isolation will be allowed to use the designated restroom.
 - Any staff who enter the isolation room must wear the proper PPE: face mask, face shield, and gloves.
 - N95 masks are not appropriate, as they must be fit-tested to be effective.
- Criteria for a well student space:
 - Student medications, basic first aid supplies and confidential health room paperwork will need to be stored in a locked, secured location.
 - Front office staff should use another designated restroom to avoid entering the isolation space.
 - For ease of cleaning, non-essential furnishings such as extra refrigerators, student clothing closets, etc. should be relocated.
- If there is difficulty with the monitoring of the isolation space, one suggestion would be to utilize the current school clinic space as the isolation room.
 - If the current clinic becomes the isolation room, a separate space will need to be designated for well-student care. This can be an area within the front office and does not need to be a separate office or room. However, there will need to be locked and secured space to house student medications, basic first aid supplies, and confidential health room paperwork.

After Student is Placed in Isolation Room

- School nurse/staff member will contact the teacher to notify that student will be going home, and arrange for pick-up of student belongings.
- All available contact numbers will be called until the parent/guardian is reached.
 - If the parent/guardian is unable to be reached, student must remain in isolation room under adult supervision.
 - Students with fever will have their temperature monitored every hour with a no-contact thermometer.
- Call 911 for any of the following:
 - Bluish lips or face
 - Inability to wake or stay awake
 - New confusion
 - Complaints of persistent pain or pressure in the chest
 - Fever $\geq 103^{\circ}\text{F}$
- Students in isolation are not allowed to be sent home on a bus, or sent to an after-care program.
- If a staff member develops symptoms while at work, they are to notify their supervisor and go home
- Students can return to school following the guidance outlined below.

WHEN CAN A STUDENT RETURN?		
Student	Symptomatic	No Symptoms
Has a fever or other symptoms, is not tested for COVID, but receives an alternative diagnosis from a healthcare provider (e.g., strep, influenza, etc.)	Return when fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications AND documentation provided of alternative diagnosis.	N/A
Has a fever or other symptoms, is not tested for COVID, and does not receive an alternative diagnosis from a healthcare provider	Return when these criteria are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 10 days from the first day symptoms appeared AND ✓ 24 hours fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medications AND ✓ Symptoms have improved 	N/A
Student was tested for COVID and tested negative	Return when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Negative test results received AND ✓ Symptoms have resolved, including fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications 	Return when negative test results received, UNLESS student must complete a 14-day quarantine, even if the test results are negative
Student was tested for COVID and tested positive	Return when cohort returns and the below criteria are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 10 days from the first day symptoms appeared AND ✓ 24 hours fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medications AND ✓ Symptoms have improved 	Return when cohort returns as long as student remain symptom free <i>*If symptoms develop, isolation re-starts on day 1 of symptoms. Student can return when criteria are met at left.</i>
Close contact (within 6 feet for greater than 15 minutes) of someone with confirmed COVID	Quarantine for 14 days, even if the student has an alternative diagnosis for symptoms <i>*If a student develop symptoms, refer to the symptomatic scenarios.</i>	Quarantine for 14 days AND must remain symptom-free. <i>*If a student develops symptoms, refer to the symptomatic scenarios.</i>

Note: ISOLATION separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.
QUARANTINE separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.