

School Nurse Contact Information

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Health Services

Welcome to the Health Services Department of Demarest School! I hope to keep you informed of health related information and also keep you abreast of NJ State Department of Health requirements.

Emergency Care

A comprehensive health service is provided in accordance with state law and the Board of Education policy. In case of an accident or illness in school, parents/guardians are notified of the health emergency so that the child may be taken home or to a physician. The school cannot provide transportation. In extreme emergencies, the local First Aid Squad will be called.

Tips From the Health Office

Keep your child home if he or she has fever, vomiting/diarrhea or a bad cold or cough.

It is essential that children with communicable diseases be kept home until the contagious period is over and their physician allows them to return to school. A note from the doctor is highly recommended.

Please report all contagious disease (strep throat, pink eye, scarlet fever, chicken pox) or contagious conditions to the school nurse promptly.

If your child exhibits a skin rash of undetermined origin, please consult your physician before sending the child to school.

Health Screenings

During the school year each student will be seen by the school nurse for the following appraisals: height and weight, vision, hearing and blood pressure screening. Notices will be sent to parents by the nurse, should health problems be found. The school nurse will provide a scoliosis check on all children, every other year, who are 10 years of age or older.

Physical Exams

Physical examinations are performed in kindergarten, 4th, 7th and 11th grades, for new entrants, and for Child Study referrals. A special form for completion by a private physician is provided in June to each student who will enter the above grades. Although Bloomfield does not require a yearly physical or dental examination, both are strongly encouraged.

Emergency Cards

The Bloomfield Public School Emergency Card is a legal consent and information form for an emergency situation. Please return the card promptly.

Sometimes jobs and friends change. If so, kindly send us a note with the new information so we can update your child's emergency records.

Medication Policy

The certified school nurse and the student's parents/guardians are the only ones permitted to administer medication in New Jersey schools. Medication will be administered to a Bloomfield student during the day only when the student would be otherwise compromised. The parent/guardian must complete the district's medication consent form and provide written orders from the private physician. No over-the-counter medication will be administered without a physician's written order. Self administration of medication for certain chronic conditions (i.e. asthma), will be permitted only after district guidelines are completed.

Change in Health Status/Medications

Please notify your child's school nurse when there is a change in your child's health status, or if a medication has been added, deleted or changed to your child's treatment plan. It is important for the school nurse to have this information should an emergency occur at school. In addition, such changes are important for the school nurse to be aware of, for the proper assessment and care of your child should they become ill at school or display any side effects of medication.

Absences

In the event your child is going to be absent from school, please call Ms. McCarter at 973-680-8510. You can leave a voicemail message at any time, 24 hours a day.

Immunization Requirements

The following immunizations are mandatory for school entrance/attendance in the State of New Jersey and proper documentation of these immunizations must be provided to the school nurse by the parent upon enrollment. They will be kept on file in the school health office

DPT	4-5 doses (if 4, the 4th must have been given on or after the 4th birthday.
Polio	3-4 doses (if 3, the third must have been given on or after the first birthday)
MMR	2 doses (the first of which must have been given on or after the first birthday).

Hepatitis B Series 3 doses

Varicella (chicken pox) One dose (for those children entering K or grade 1 born on or after January 1, 1997—effective starting school year '04-'05.)

This vaccine is only exempt if the child had chicken pox or has proof of immunity. Children who present either documented laboratory evidence, a physician's or parental statement of previous varicella disease, shall not be required to receive varicella vaccines.

New Immunization Requirements

All students attending a pre-school program must receive an annual Influenza Vaccine and one dose of the Pneumococcal Vaccine.

Children born on or after January 1, 1997 and entering the sixth grade after September 1, 2008 must receive one dose of Tdap

(Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis). Children who received a Td booster less than five years ago, shall not be required to receive

a Tdap dose until five years have elapsed from the last dose of tetanus. In addition, every child born on or after January 1, 1997

must receive one dose of Meningococcal Vaccine before entering sixth grade in September 2008.

Family Life Curriculum

The State of New Jersey has mandated instruction in family life education (Grades K-12) as well as general health instruction including substance awareness and AIDS education. This notice is published to comply with the state mandate, and is intended to satisfy other state requirements concerning parental notification. The Board of Education has established a policy whereby a parent/guardian may request in writing, that their child be excused, without penalty, from aspects of the Family Life curriculum that may be in conflict with their conscience or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs. Letters direct to the principal's office at your child's school should specify areas of the curriculum in which philosophical or religious differences are held. Include your full name (print) and signature and your child's full name and grade. A copy of the complete curriculum can be reviewed at your child's school.

Links

CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

Up to date, accurate medical information on just about any medical condition.
<http://www.cdc.gov/>

American Academy of Pediatrics

The "authority" on current pediatric care/medical information.
<http://www.aap.org/>

WebMD

General accurate medical information on a plethora of medical conditions, offered in easy to understand lay terms.
<http://www.webmd.org/>

Kids Health

Great site for kids to obtain accurate and appropriate health information on multiple topics Offers many interactive activities for kids.
<http://www.kidshealth.org/>

NASN: National Association of School Nursing

Lists their position statements on a variety of issues pertaining to school health.
<http://www.nasn.org/>

ASHA: American School Health Association

A professional organization that provides guidance and serves as a resource to a variety of school health professional on the current issues affecting their practice.

<http://www.aahai.org/>

American Diabetes Association

Information on diabetes, and in particular, children with diabetes including information pertaining to managing diabetes in school.

<http://www.diabetes.org/>

Autism

For reliable information on this topic visit:

<http://www.aap.org/healthtopics/autism.cfm>

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/dd/ddautism.htm>

Where can I find more information about head lice?

www.headlice.org

www.cdc.gov

www.hsph.harvard.edu/headlice.html