

MEDICAL MATTERS

The St Albans School Nursing Service is in place to promote the health, wellbeing and protection of pupils at school. Between the hours of 8am and 5:30pm the **Registered Nurses**; Mrs Blackman, Mrs Green or Ms Valeny are available in the Medical Room and first aid cover is available until 6pm every day. The Nurses are always pleased to discuss any medical matters and can be contacted on nurses@st-albans.herts.sch.uk or on 01727 515271. **Please do make contact if you have any concerns about your child's health or if there has been a medical review or event outside of school hours.**

Medical Conditions

You will be sent a *New Pupil Medical Information/Consent Form* in your paperwork prior to your child joining school. Parents are asked to confidentially share with the School Nurses their child's medical history and any medication they take. The nurses will follow up with any parents who identify that their children have significant medical conditions or concerns.

Throughout the school year, if your child has a newly diagnosed condition or injury the nurses will need to be informed so that they can provide appropriate care for your child. Individual health care plans are in place for all children with long term conditions such as allergy, anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes and epilepsy. The standard templates and links can be found on the [School website](#) then by following 'Trips and Medical'. The School Nurses welcome parents to make appointments to discuss healthcare plans.

Medication

The nurses hold a stock of medicines which would normally be kept in a household for the relief of pain, temperature and minor ailments. Parents will be encouraged to seek pharmacy/medical advice if further clinical assessment is needed. Students are not permitted to bring in any other over the counter medications into school unless it is handed to the School Nurse. **If your son or daughter needs to bring their own over the counter or prescribed medication into school a [Medication Form](#) needs to be completed and handed to the School Nurse in the Main Medical Room with the medication.**

Prescribed medication will only be administered to the student for whom it has been prescribed and must be clearly labelled in its original packaging. **If your child is prescribed an Adrenaline Auto injector (such as an EpiPen) or a 'reliever' inhaler, they are permitted to carry these medications on themselves and are actively encouraged to do so at all times.** It is the responsibility of parents to ensure medicines stored in school are in date.

The school's policy for the management of **medication on trips** is that, with the exception of controlled drugs, students will self-manage their medication. If students are not able to self-medicate, we will ask that you contact the nurses at least four weeks in advance of the trip date (where this is possible), so they can liaise with the Trip Leader to establish a plan for management.

Sporting Injuries

There may be times when the students sustain and are treated for sports injuries at school. When an injury may have caused a concussion, all students are referred on for medical assessment. We treat the care, management and support of concussion very seriously and follow the England Rugby **Graduated Return to Play Protocol**. This starts with 48 hours rest from sports and screens following injury for all. Your role as parents in supporting this is crucial. The School Nurses will call you to coordinate this.

Spread of Infection

If you are unsure about whether your child can come to school when they are unwell, please check our summary [Infectious Diseases in School](#) or give the nurses a call. Understandably School has strict **exclusion rules for managing specific infectious diseases**. If your son or daughter has suffered from sickness and /or diarrhoea for example, we ask that you do not send them into school for 48 hours from the last bout of sickness. These rules not only go some way to contain the possibility of infection spreading within the school community but allows your son/daughter to recover in greater comfort.

For **COVID-19** we ask that parents strictly follow [government guidelines for COVID testing and self-isolation](#). We ask that you let the nurses know promptly if your son or daughter has **tested positive** so that we can advise accordingly and so that the School can provide guidance and support to vulnerable close contacts.

We ask that you please inform the school immediately of any infectious diseases. If you are reporting your son/ daughter absent due to ill-health please also get into the habit of copying the School Nurses into emails using nurses@st-albans.herts.sch.uk

Vaccinations

Throughout the school year, the NHS Immunisation team come into School to deliver the National School Aged Programme of Immunisations. We are pleased that we can offer the **Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)** two dose programme (given 6 to 24 months apart) in **the Second Form** and the **Diphtheria, Tetanus & Polio booster (Td/IPV) and Meningitis ACWY booster** injections in the **Third Form**. The Td/IPV is a booster and every child should have already received 4 doses of this vaccine (please check your records or with your GP practice if you are unsure). When the Immunisation Team are due to come into school, the School Nurses will write to parents one month before to ask for their consent. If you son/ daughter does not attend this session, I am afraid catch-up clinics need to be organised by parents and accessed in the community. School does not hold vaccination records.

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