



MANATEE COUNTY SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES 2020 – 2021 School Year



MANATEE COUNTY SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Your school clinic is staffed by a full-time trained Health Support Tech or LPN and a full-time or part-time Registered Nurse from either the Manatee County Health Department or the School District of Manatee County.

The goal of school health services and your school health staff is to provide care for your child(ren) in the event of illness or injury while at school.

Please feel free to discuss with your school nurse any and all special needs your child(ren) may have that would require care and attention while in school.

IMMUNIZATIONS

All students are required to have a physical exam and a current completed Florida Immunization Certificate – or be excluded from school (FS 1003.22).

MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL

For students needing prescription or over-the-counter medications during school hours, physician orders are required. Parents/legal guardians MUST contact the school health staff.

ILL/INJURED CHILD

If you are contacted by school or health personnel to pick up your child from school due to illness, injury, or possible communicable disease, you need to make arrangements to pick up your child within 30 minutes. School clinics do not have adequate space to retain sick and injured children who need to go home or be seen by a doctor. Children should be fever free for 24 hours (without fever reducing medication) before returning to school.

Routine first aid and health services will be provided to your child in accordance with established health protocols, available through your child's school clinic. Emergency Medical Services (911) will be called to provide care and transportation to the hospital if your child develops any of the following: unusual confusion or unconscious; blocked airway, not breathing, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath or choking; no pulse; bleeding that won't stop; coughing up or vomiting blood; suspected poisoning; seizure for the first time or extended seizure activity; sudden severe pain anywhere in the body; limb threatening injuries; child's condition could worsen or become life threatening on the way to the hospital; moving the child could cause further injury; child needs the skills or equipment of paramedics or EMT's; distance or traffic conditions would cause a delay in getting your child to the hospital. You or your designated emergency contact person will be notified if 911 is contacted.

Please keep school health staff informed of your child's medical conditions and your personal/emergency contact numbers.

The welfare of your child is our primary concern. Your assistance and cooperation is needed and appreciated.

DENTAL CARE

Routine dental care not only prevents pain and infection, but also improves overall health and reduces absenteeism. If you are interested in services for your child(ren), contact your school nurse who knows of the community resources available.

PARENT NOTIFICATION OF SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

One or more of the following health services may be offered to students as part of the comprehensive School Health Services program. The promotion of good health and prevention of disease is the primary goal of this program. Please take a moment to consider these free services and the advantages to your child:

- Health screenings are conducted, such as vision, hearing, speech/language, scoliosis, dental, growth and development (height/weight/BMI), blood pressure, nursing assessment to identify possible communicable disease and other risks to a student's health.
After any health screening, a record of the results will be sent home with the child. An effort will be made to test absent students at a later date. Please contact your school nurse if you have questions or concerns.
- Educational programs are provided, such as health, safety, hygiene, self-esteem, nutrition, human growth & development, violence and substance abuse prevention.
- The school nurse is available to assist students and families with various health issues or referrals to community resources.
- Students 17 years old and older may donate blood during the annual blood drive without parental permission (FS 743.06).

If you **do not** desire these services for your child, you must write a letter to your child's school. In your letter, you must state which of these services you **do not** want your child to receive. Be sure to indicate your child's name and grade. The letter must be signed and dated by the child's parent or legal guardian.

Websites: <https://www.manateeschools.net> – The School Health link can be found by clicking “Departments”; then “School Health”. Information is also available at the Florida Department of Health <http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/childrens-health/school-health/index.html>