

## RPDC Student Health and Nursing

At Roxbury Prep the School Nurse has a crucial role in the seamless provision of comprehensive health services to children and youth. Increasing numbers of students enter schools with chronic health conditions that require management during the school day. A School Nurse is a specialized practice of professional nursing that advances the well-being, academic success, and lifelong achievement of students. To that end, school nurses facilitate positive student responses to normal development; promote health and safety; intervene with actual and potential health problems; provide case management services; and actively collaborate with others to build student and family capacity for adaptation, self-management, self-advocacy, and learning.

The National Association of School Nurses identifies 7 core roles that the school nurse fulfills to foster child and adolescent health and educational success. The roles are overarching and are applicable to school nurses at all levels of practice, in all geographic settings, and with all clients.

1. The School Nurse provides direct care to students.
2. The School Nurse provides leadership for the provision of health services. The nurse is the health care expert within the school, assesses the overall system of care and develops a plan alongside the Operations Team to ensure that all health needs are met!
3. The School Nurse provides screening and referral for health conditions. (Screenings conducted; Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) conducted for all 7<sup>th</sup> graders, Health Screenings including BMI, Vision, Hearing, and Posture exam conducted for all grades 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>.)
4. Provides for physical and emotional safety of the school community by monitoring immunizations, ensuring appropriate exclusion for infectious illness, and reporting communicable diseases as required by law.
5. The School Nurse promotes health education by providing health information to individual students and groups of students through health education.
6. The School Nurse serves in leadership role for health policies and programs. This includes health promotion and protection, school wellness policies, mental health protection and intervention, acute illness management.
7. The School Nurse is a liaison between school personnel, family, health care professionals, and the community.

## FAQs

**How can I contact the School Nurse?** You can call the school's main number at 617-858-2300 and enter extension 4216 for the nurse's office. To fax health information, use the number 617-275-5760, or email to [mo@roxburyprep.org](mailto:mo@roxburyprep.org)

**How can a student visit the School Nurse?** Any student needing medical attention or not feeling well can raise their hand in class and request to see the nurse. Depending on what is taking place during class the teacher will use their judgement and send student with a hall pass specifying to nurse's office.

**Can I send in prescription medication for my child to take during school hours?** Yes, if you have a signed doctor's authorization note stating that student is to take this medication during school hours. Both the note and prescription medication must be turned in before student can receive it during school hours. This is the same for asthma pumps and epi-pens.

**What happens on school field trips for students who have asthma or an emergency allergic reaction?** The School Nurse attends all school sanctioned field trips that require nurse's supervision and will bring along any prescription/OTC medications necessary.

**Can my child receive over the counter medication at school?** Yes, for nonprescription over the counter (OTC) medication, the School Nurse can administer (Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen, Tums, anti-diarrheal pills or liquid medication, non-drowsy allergy pills, cough drops, and cortisone cream) if student has medication portion of enrollment application filled out by parent/guardian.

**What documentation do you need on file for up to date health information on my student?** We need an updated physical within the current year on file for every student, updated contact/emergency information, and any in-school signed doctor's notes and medication forms.

**What happens if my child gets injured while at school?** The School Nurse will use medical judgement to assess the situation, proper care will be provided, parent will be immediately contact, the Director of Operations/Principal will be updated, and emergency services (911) will be contacted in an emergency situation and the nurse or staff member will go with the student to hospital.

**If I have a doctor's note stating my child has medical needs/restrictions can that be reinforced at school?** Yes, if we receive signed doctor's note stating restrictions or medical needs. Information will be relayed while maintaining privacy to all staff that needs to be informed to maintain student's safety.