

FAQs for Parents/Caregivers Related to Health Services
Current as of July 14, 2020

Will my child be sent home from school and excluded from attendance for 10 days if he/she has a cough or runny nose? What if he/she has a statement from their doctor indicating they suffer from seasonal allergies?

Clinic personnel will follow the direction of the corporation nurse regarding considerations for exclusion from school attendance. This direction has been developed using guidance from The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), and the Hancock County Health Department (HCHD). If a student reports to the school clinic with symptom(s) of COVID-19, he/she may be sent home. If, after being sent home, the student receives a letter from their healthcare provider indicating that COVID-19 is not a suspected cause, and this documentation is provided to the school, the student may return to school. An annual letter stating the student suffers from seasonal allergies is not a guarantee that a student will not be sent home. Registered nurses and health assistants are not permitted to diagnose.

Will my student be required to wear a cloth face covering to be seen in the school clinic?

Yes, everyone entering the school clinic is required to wear a cloth face covering. Should your student have physician documentation that they cannot wear a cloth face covering, your child must wear a face shield, as deemed appropriate by the ISDH.

My child requires a dose of his/her medication daily with their lunch. Will they be permitted to take medication at school this year?

Yes, students who require medication while at school will be able to receive their medication. As in previous years, first day doses will not be given at school and are the responsibility of the parent/caregiver. Students will be required to have in their possession those items that are necessary to take medication (bottle of water, crackers, applesauce, etc.). These items will not be stored in the clinic.

I heard my student cannot have nebulizer treatments at school this year. What should he/she do if a nebulizer treatment is necessary? Nebulizer treatments are considered aerosolizing procedures and will not be available to students while at school, per the guidance from the ISDH. Parents with a student who has used a nebulizer in the past should contact their healthcare provider now to discuss alternatives. Students who can be transitioned to the use of a hand-held inhaler will be required to use a spacer with the inhaler if it is not a Respiclick. If a student cannot be transitioned to a hand-held inhaler, the parent should communicate with their healthcare provider about the most appropriate alternative.

My student already uses a hand-held inhaler. Can he/she use it at school?

Yes, but per guidance from the ISDH, students must use a spacer with their hand-held inhaler. Clinic personnel will not be able to accept inhalers that do not also have a spacer with them. Inhalers and spacers stored in the clinic must be in the original container, with a pharmacy label, and sent in a clear plastic box with a closing lid, marked with the student's name on the outside.

Students who have permission to self-carry a hand-held inhaler must also have possession of and use a spacer. This does not apply to students who use the Respiclick inhaler.

What if my student has a bathroom accident while at school?

Parents of children who still experience bathroom accidents should plan on sending a complete weather appropriate change of clothing with their child each day. This would include a shirt, pants, underwear, socks and shoes. If your child has a bathroom accident while at school and he/she does not have a change of clothing, a parent/caregiver will be contacted to bring the necessary items to school. Clinic personnel will not assist students in changing clothing, so please send clothes your student can take off and put on without assistance.

Will students be provided comfort measures for various ailments?

This depends on the ailment. Parents are encouraged to teach their children age appropriate self-care, and could send their child to school with bandaids, contact solution, lip balm, lotion, etc., for their own personal use. Parents should educate the student on the importance of not sharing these types of personal items. These items (with the exception of bandaids for actively bleeding cuts) will not be available to students.

What if my student is injured while at school?

Clinic personnel are trained in CPR and first aid and will be available to your student if he/she requires medical intervention. Historically, students have been seen in the school clinic for minor issues including paper cuts and old bumps or bruises. To help keep your student healthy and separated from potentially ill students, please help your student understand when clinic response is necessary and when it is not.

What can I expect if my student is suspected of having COVID-19?

Clinic protocol has been developed using state and federal guidelines with the intention of keeping students and staff as healthy as possible. Clinics are being modified to include partitions and isolation areas to separate ill students from healthy students who visit the clinic for routine medical care such as medication or diabetic care. The ill student will have a mask on, will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms, and isolated and sent home if the screening indicates COVID-19 is a possibility. The student will remain in the designated isolation area until a parent arrives. Upon parent arrival to school, a staff member will escort the student to the parent's vehicle. Parents will be given pick up instructions when notified that their student is being sent home. Reference the [GCCSC Re-entry Guidance Summary](#) for more information.

My student comes to the clinic for feminine hygiene products. Will she be able to get those this year?

Students should be sent to school with their own personal supply everyday. Clinic supplies are for emergency purposes, and should not be used as routine supply. If a student has a need for support in this area due to financial reasons, please contact clinic personnel for assistance.