

## Health Policies

St. George Catholic School maintains a First Aid Room staffed by a nurse. Services are limited to maintaining health, medication and emergency records and filing of required reports; contacting parents in case of student illness; treating the ordinary bumps, scrapes and illnesses that are part of daily life; administering prescription medications for a serious chronic illness diagnosed by a physician (if a student takes any medication on a regular basis at home, parents should notify the school nurse); and conducting hearing, vision and scoliosis screenings.

As part of the registration/re-registration process, a parent or guardian must provide St. George School with a current State of Louisiana Universal Certificate of Immunizations that is updated, complete and signed or stamped by a physician's office. Please contact the school nurse at 293-1298 if you have any questions about immunization requirements.

Services that are not available in our First Aid Room are:

- Diagnosing or performing invasive procedures.
- Caring for children who become ill at school.

Students must be picked-up within an hour of being contacted by the nurse. Children should be free of fever, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea for 24 hours (without the use of medication, e.g. Tylenol, Advil, Motrin, or an anti-diarrheal medication, that would mask these symptoms), before returning to school. Students being picked up from school with these symptoms may not return until they have been free of symptoms for 24 hours from the time of pick up. If seen by a physician for a contagious illness, the student must have a note from the physician stating when the student may return. Medications cannot be administered on an "as needed" basis.

### Medication Policy:

Proper procedure for medication will be followed or medication will not be administered. No exceptions will be made.

Medications may be brought to school by a parent or guardian and given to the student in the presence of the school nurse.

Students are not allowed to have any medication, prescription or non-prescription, in their possession at any time on the school grounds. Teachers and school administrators have the right to take any medication from the student and contact the parent for appropriate action.

Medication that is to be administered at school must be brought to school by parent or guardian. A **St. George Catholic School Parental Consent Form for Medication**

**Administration** (available at the school office or on the school website) must be completed and signed by the parent and the physician for each medication. The physician's portion of the form must include the child's name, diagnosis, name of the medication, time/frequency to be administered at school, dosage and length of time to be administered. This form must accompany the medication. A new physician's order is needed at the beginning of each school year. Verbal phone orders from physicians or parents cannot be accepted.

Prescribed medication must be in an updated container that meets acceptable pharmaceutical standards. The label must include the name of student to be administered medication, name of medication, strength, and amount and time it is to be administered.

Prescribed over-the-counter medications must be brought to the First Aid Room in the original container.

Each child will report to the First Aid Room at the prescribed time to receive medication from the school nurse or approved office personnel. The medication chart will be checked to ensure proper medical administration.

Only a one-month's supply of medication will be accepted at one time.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The following medications will not be given in the First Aid Room: antibiotics, barbiturates, narcotics, or non-prescription medications including, but not limited to, cough drops, Chap Stick, and Vaseline. If necessary, a parent may administer medication to their child in the nurse's office.

### **Orthopedic Appliance Policy:**

Any student wearing an orthopedic appliance, which includes but is not limited to a cast, sling, brace, splint, catches, tape, ace bandage, boot, etc. must be accompanied by a note from either the parent or the physician. Upon the first day arrival at school with an apparatus, the student and parent must meet with the school nurse to go over safety procedures. The student wearing an appliance will be restricted from participating in recess, PE and school sports. If the appliance is needed or more than two days, then a physician's note must be turned in to the nurse outlining any restrictions, limitations, and a plan for clearance. A note must also be submitted to the nurse when the physician has cleared the student to resume their regular activity.

**Head Lice:** Head lice are a common occurrence among school-age children. It is spread through direct contact and the sharing of personal items. Parents must notify the school nurse if their child has lice. Students must be checked by the school nurse and found to be lice and nit-free before returning to class.

**Nut Allergies:** All types of loose nuts are prohibited on the school campus including the school cafeteria. Food items containing nuts/nut particles/peanut butter may be eaten in the cafeteria only. The St. George cafeteria will not serve items with peanuts or peanut products. Students with identified nut allergies will be seated separately from students who bring bag lunches from home. Students bringing bag lunches from home will be directed to wash their hands following lunch. Students with identified nut allergies will not be given any food items brought to school by other students, purchased or homemade. Students with nut allergies will be asked to provide a supply of nut-free snacks for consumption on these days.

**Severe and/or Life Threatening Allergies:** Any and all students with severe and/or life threatening allergies (including nut allergies) must schedule a meeting with a member of the administrative team and the school nurse prior to the beginning of each school year. Students may not be allowed to begin school until the meeting has been documented.

All teachers will receive information on students in their classes with medical problems and explanations regarding these problems (i.e., symptoms, immediate emergency response, etc.)

Teachers may not keep medication for a student in the classroom, nor can a teacher administer medication to a student except on field trips or in accordance with the St. George Catholic School medication policy.