



HEALTH & ILLNESS POLICIES: **Please stay home when sick!**

St. Michael's strives to prevent the spread of contagious diseases and to keep students healthy and safe. Students who appear to be ill with possible infectious conditions are isolated and parents are notified. Parents will be expected to pick up a child as soon as possible after being called.

Please contact St. Michael's Nurse, Shawnetta Maben, LPN, at smaben@stmschool.net or 804-272-3514, x 110 with any questions or concerns.

- **If your child is absent with a contagious condition, please notify the School so that we may be aware of symptoms that could appear in other children**
- **Your child must be symptom-free of contagious disease (fever, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, etc.) for greater than 24 hours and without fever-reducing medication before returning to school**

Fever: Students are sent home with temperatures of 100°F or greater. Students must be fever-free without medication or 24 hours before returning to school.

Flu: Children suffering from flu-like symptoms should remain at home. One of the best flu prevention strategies is washing one's hands throughout the day, as many germs are spread as a result of hand-to-mouth contact.

Gastroenteritis: Children who have vomited or have diarrhea are sent home. They must remain at home until their status reaches normal for 24 hours.

Conjunctivitis: Children may return to school after being treated with medication for 24 hours.

Chicken Pox: Children must remain at home until no new eruptions appear, present ones have crusted over and temperature reaches normal.

Strep: Children diagnosed with strep throat may not return to school until they have been on antibiotics for 24 hours and until their temperature reaches normal without analgesic medication for 24 hours.

Lice: A child with active lice should remain at home until appropriate treatment, which kills crawling lice, has taken place. The School asks families to share diagnoses of lice with the School so an anonymous notice can be sent to other families in the student's grade (and Extended Programs if the student is enrolled there) as a courtesy.

As the School has neither the staff nor expertise to guarantee an accurate diagnosis of lice and nits, it does not check for these. However, in instances where obvious active lice are observed by the School, just as when a student vomits, the School will report this to the student's family and ask if they would, as a courtesy to other families, please pick up the child as soon as possible. To avoid entanglements with outside service providers, the School does not make referrals to lice treatment providers.



Injuries: Parents are notified when a child sustains an injury at school. If the injury is considered severe, EMS personnel and the parents are notified.

Medications: At St. Michael's, student safety is of utmost importance. ALL medications (over-the-counter and prescription) must be kept in the Nurse's office. Any medication to be administered must include explicit instructions. In an effort to follow Virginia Association of Independent Schools and Department of Social Services mandates, St. Michael's uses the standard MAT Medication Parental Consent Form for all prescription and over-the-counter medications. Please note these are two-sided forms and must be completed prior to the administration of any medication.

- Over-the-counter drugs may be administered to a student for a short period of time (10 days or fewer). To do so, clear instructions and parent signature are needed on the MAT Parental Consent form. Medications must be clearly marked and kept in the Nurse's office.
- **All prescription medications require both instructions and physician signature on the MAT Parental Consent form.** Prescription medication must also have the patient's name and prescribed dosage on the original container.

Additionally, students with inhalers and/or EpiPens will also need to fill out the FARE (Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Emergency Care Plan) form with their physician as this form requires a physician's signature. Students with EpiPens should have two at school in case one of them is defective, and the prescription must be current.

St. Michael's utilizes Magnus Health, an online health portal, to manage your child's health information. All health forms should be completed prior to the start of school and uploaded to Magnus Health.

PROTOCOLS FOR COVID CASES

These protocols may be updated periodically as new information becomes available.

For COVID-19 cases, St. Michael's School adheres to [Virginia Department of Health \(VDH\) guidelines](#), which as of May 31, 2023, directs people to the [CDC Operation Guidance for K-12 Schools](#) for information.

Please alert the school ASAP if your child has tested POSITIVE for COVID-19 via our COVID Reporting Form.

Isolation protocols for positive cases remain unchanged:

- Isolation for COVID-19 remains 5 days, with "day 0" being the date of symptom onset or date of positive test collection if asymptomatic
- Return on day 6 if symptoms are improving and fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications
- Wear a well-fitting mask through day 10