

# School Health Services



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(Census Verification Report)

**Central Bucks School District**



## Health Services

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Pupil services personnel who provide health services for students include certified school nurses, consulting physicians, physician's assistants, nurse practitioners, and dentists. When the certified school nurse must be out of the building, the health room is staffed by a staff nurse who is an RN or LPN who is familiar with first aid and emergency procedures.

Among other services, school nurses maintain student health records, perform state-required health screenings. Administer doctor-prescribed medications, perform nursing procedures, respond to school illnesses and accidents, assist physicians and dentists with school examination, provide health counseling and referral, conduct health-related classroom instruction, and serve as a parent and staff consultant in health-related matters.

## Required Immunizations

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The following immunizations must be completed before your child can be admitted to school. Medical, religious, or philosophical exemptions will be accepted with written documentation from the parent and or physician. In the event of contagion, **a child who is exempt may be excluded from school based on the direction of the health department.**

1. **Diphtheria and Tetanus (DT):** Four or more doses of vaccine, one of which must be given at age four or older.
2. **Polio:** Three properly spaced doses of vaccine.
3. **Rubella (German Measles), Measles, and Mumps:** Two doses of vaccine, the first at twelve months of age or older.
4. **Hepatitis B:** Three properly spaced doses of vaccine for elementary students and grade 7. Seventh graders were added to the mandate in 2002-03.
5. **Varicella (Chicken Pox) Immunity:** Two doses of the vaccine, history of the disease, documentation of laboratory testing.

**Children attending 7th grade require the following:**

1. **Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap):** One adult dose
2. **Meningococcal:** One dose

A child may be admitted to school if there is documentation that one dose of each of the above immunizations has been given. State law requires that the immunization series must be completed within eight months of school entry or the student cannot be permitted to continue in school.

## Required Health Examinations

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Pennsylvania mandates the following health examination as indicated:

<b>Physicals</b>	School entry, grades 6 and 11
<b>Dental</b>	School entry, grades 3 and 7
<b>Hearing</b>	School entry, grades 1, 2, 3, 7, and 11 (Children with hearing problems are checked annually)

<b>Vision</b>	All grades
<b>Height, Weight &amp; BMI</b>	All grades
<b>Scoliosis</b>	Grades 6 and 7

Parents are urged to have physical and dental examinations completed by their family physician or dentist and submitted prior to October 15th of the year that they are due. Exams may be completed any time after September 1st of the prior calendar year.

**Sports physicals** are not part of mandated school health services but are governed by the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) rules which require student athletes to receive a medical examination prior to participation in a sport, including tryouts and practice sessions. Complete information about sports physicals is supplied to students prior to participation. Any further questions should be directed to the school principal or athletic director.

## Communicable Diseases

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It is imperative that the health office be notified if your child contracts a communicable disease. Children are excluded from school for the following common diseases:

1. **Chicken Pox:** Excluded until at least six days after the last outbreak of “pox”.
2. **Conjunctivitis, Acute (“Pink Eye”):** Excluded until prescribed treatment has been given for 24 hrs.
3. **Head Lice:** Excluded until treated with a pediculocide shampoo and combed for nit removal. A parent is required to accompany the student to the health office with the pediculocide box or container for a recheck after treatment, before the student is readmitted to class.
4. **Impetigo:** Excluded until judged non-infective by the child’s physician or the school nurse
5. **Measles:** Excluded until four days from onset of rash.
6. **Mumps:** Excluded nine days from the onset or until swelling subsides.
7. **Pertussis (Whooping Cough):** Excluded four weeks from onset or seven days from start of antibiotic treatment.
8. **Ringworm:** Excluded until judged non-infective by the child’s physician or the school nurse.
9. **Rubella (German Measles):** Excluded four days from the onset of rash.
10. **Scabies:** Excluded until determined to be non-infective by the child’s physician or the school nurse.
11. **Streptococcal Pharyngitis (Strep Throat and Scarlet Fever):** Excluded until 24 hours after treatment has begun.

Central Bucks also reserves the right to exclude children from school based on the following criteria:

1. Illness that prevents the child from participating in activities.
2. Fever (100° or higher). **Students may not return to school until free of fever without fever medication for 24 hours.**

3. Diarrhea or vomiting during the previous 24 hours. **Student may not return to school until they are free of diarrhea and vomiting for 24 hours.**
4. Rash with a fever.
5. Other conditions deemed appropriate after assessment by the certified school nurse and/or the staff nurse.

## Medication Policy

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All medication, whether prescription or over-the-counter, must be kept in the health office. **Medication must be sent to school in the original labeled container and must be accompanied by a Medication Dispensing Form signed by both the physician (or dentist) and the parent.**

With parent permission indicated on the census verification report, acetaminophen and ibuprofen may be administered according to manufacturer's suggested dosage. Your child should **not** come to school on narcotic medication for pain management as these medications may cause dizziness, light-headedness and sedation which make it difficult for your child to function safely and effectively in school.

Administration of specific nonprescription medications is available to all students under the guidelines of the district's Medical Director. These medications include cough drops, throat spray, antacid tablets, and Neosporin ointment.

All controlled medications must be hand-delivered to the school nurse or the principal's designee by a parent or guardian at which time it will be counted and signed for. Some examples of controlled medications include, but are not limited to: Ritalin, Concerta, Dexedrine, Adderall, and Ativan.

## Emergency Contact Information

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(Census Verification Report)

Census verification forms are distributed at the beginning of each year to provide the school with information should an emergency occur during school hours. Please review and update the form as necessary. **List 2 emergency contacts in the relationship contact area.**

Forms provide the school with information about any significant health concerns you may have about your child (allergies, routine medications and chronic conditions such as asthma, diabetes, attention deficit disorder, etc.)

Please update the form, date and sign it and return promptly. To keep this information current, please inform the school of any changes in phone numbers or medical status as soon as they occur.

Central Bucks School District is an Equal Opportunity Institution and does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices or in its programs and services on the basis of race, color, gender, national origin, age, or disability. For information about your civil rights or about programs and services accessible to the handicapped, please contact Student Services at 267-893-2021, or write to the address below.