



# *The Dominican*

## COMMUNITY *of* SCHOOLS

### **2024-2025 Health Plan**

Please help us decrease the spread of illness at school by keeping children home when they are sick. Illnesses such as the common cold, strep throat, flu, COVID, pink eye, lice, hand-foot & mouth, and stomach bug all spread through contact with an infected person.

To help us track any illness, please contact the administrative assistant associated with each school division, your homeroom teacher, and the school nurse. If your child is going to check-in late or be absent for illness and/or any other reason, please notify the following people:

- NURSE - Nina Gardner [health@saa-sds.org](mailto:health@saa-sds.org)
- ECC - Renee Pirkey [rpirkey@saa-sds.org](mailto:rpirkey@saa-sds.org)
- SAA LS - Tammy Brooks [tbrooks@saa-sds.org](mailto:tbrooks@saa-sds.org)
- SDS - Diane Pirozzi [dmpirozzi@saa-sds.org](mailto:dmpirozzi@saa-sds.org)
- SAA-SDS JH - Tammy Brooks [tbrooks@saa-sds.org](mailto:tbrooks@saa-sds.org)
- US - Renata Novarese [rnovarese@saa-sds.org](mailto:rnovarese@saa-sds.org)

### **Know When to Stay Home - Please follow these guidelines in case of illness:**

- Nausea/Vomiting/Diarrhea (N/V/D)  
Your child must be N/V/D-free for 24 hours before returning. If your child has N/V/D while at school, he/she will be sent home and cannot return the next day. The 24-hour clock starts with the last instance of N/V/D.
- Fever (100.4 or greater)  
Your child must be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. If using these medications (Advil, Tylenol etc.), the 24-hour clock begins after the last dose of Advil/Tylenol has worn off (4-6 hours after dose is given).
- Hand Foot & Mouth Disease  
Children are usually fussy and won't eat or drink well with HF&M, so keep them at home until symptoms improve and blisters are dry.

- Lice  
Your child needs to be lice and nit (egg) free before returning to school and *must* be checked by the school nurse prior to returning to the classroom. There are multiple approaches to eliminate lice—prescription shampoo, over-the-counter shampoo, Robi Comb, Lice Doctors, Lice Clinic.
- Respiratory Illnesses  
Whether viral or bacterial, respiratory illnesses such as the common cold, flu, sinus infection, and strep throat, spread by airborne droplets from talking, sneezing, coughing etc. Please keep your child at home if they are exhibiting these symptoms and take them to the pediatrician for treatment when necessary. Antibiotic use for 24 hours for strep throat is required to return to campus.
- COVID  
If your child has tested positive for COVID, please keep them home for 5 days after their positive test result. They may return to school on day 6, assuming they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications *and* symptoms are improving. Please inform [health@saa-sds.org](mailto:health@saa-sds.org) of your positive test result and notify those whom you consider a close contact.  
If your child has been in close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID, he/she may come to school. However, we ask that you closely monitor your child for symptoms and test for COVID if symptomatic.
- Pink Eye  
If your child wakes up with their eyelashes crusty and the white areas of their eyes are pink/red and appear glassy or watery, they likely have pink eye. Antibacterial eye drops are needed if the source is bacterial. After 24 hours using the eyedrops, your child may return to school.
- Strep Throat  
Your child may return to school once they have had 2 doses of a course of an appropriate antibiotic taken 12 hours apart and they are without fever and symptoms are improving.

### **Presenting Symptoms While at School**

Should a student or staff present symptoms for any illness while at school, we will escort the student to a comfortable isolated area, and they will be seen by our school nurse for further evaluation and appropriate measures will be taken. The school nurse will contact the parent and the Dean regarding steps taken and whether the student or staff needs to leave campus.

Please be sure that you have updated parent contact numbers as well as approved persons to pick up your child in case of illness or emergency. Depending on the severity of the illness or injury, the nurse will contact an emergency contact person for the child if unable to reach the child's parent/guardian. A parent or guardian is expected to pick up your child within one hour of notification by the school nurse.

St. Agnes Academy and St. Dominic School will continue to support students with acute or chronic health conditions. Short-term absences will be handled on a case-by-case basis with the parent in touch with school officials. Long-term absences will be considered if criteria are appropriate for medical leave or other potential medical accommodations.

We do our best to honor all physician orders; however, there may be situations and/or circumstances that prevent the school from being able to do so. In these circumstances we will notify you so that alternate arrangements can be made.

*\*This is a working document, and all information is subject to change.*

*Updated June 1, 2024*