

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

POLICY STATEMENT

1. The School District of New London shall cooperate with state and local public health agencies in establishing and maintaining appropriate health standards for the school environment, promoting the good health of students and staff, and educating students and staff in disease prevention methods and sound health practices. Federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding communicable disease reporting and control shall be followed.
2. In an effort to maintain a safe and healthful school environment, the district will provide educational opportunities to students and staff regarding measures that can be taken to reduce risk of contracting or transmitting communicable diseases at school and in school related activities.
3. The School District of New London recognizes that an individual's health status is personal and private. Therefore, the district will handle information regarding students and staff with suspected or confirmed communicable diseases confidentially in accordance with state and federal laws and Board policies.
4. Students and staff may be excluded from school and/or school related activities if they are suspected of or diagnosed as having a communicable disease that poses a significant health risk to others or that renders them unable to adequately perform their jobs or pursue their studies. Students and staff excluded from school pursuant to this policy may appeal their exclusion in accordance with established procedures.

POLICY PROCEDURE

1. All teachers, school authorities, and health officers having jurisdiction shall not permit the attendance in any public school of any student afflicted with a severe cough, a severe cold, itch, scabies, lice or other vermin, ringworm of the scalp, ringworm on the exposed portions of the body, impetigo, epidemic jaundice, infections conjunctivitis ("pink eye"), or any contagious skin disease, or who is filthy in body or clothing or who has any communicable disease so designated by the State Division of Health, unless specifically exempted from the rules.
2. School authorities, or designee, in all schools shall, without delay, send home any student who is obviously sick, even if the ailment is unknown, and said school authorities, or designee, shall inform the parents or guardians of said student and also the local health officer shall examine the case and take such action as is reasonable and necessary for the benefit of the students and to prevent the spread of infection. Students will be picked up within a two-hour timeframe since the school district is not a healthcare setting. Every effort will be made to contact the parent that the student needs to be taken home. If the student is not picked up within the two-hour timeframe, the district may choose to contact the County Nurse.
3. Wisconsin Communicable Disease Control Measures (attached) are posted in each school office which dictate an appropriate timeframe for the excluded student's return, i.e., conjunctivitis – student may return 24 hours after treatment has begun. Infected students should provide proof of treatment upon return to school.

- a. According to District emergency nursing procedures, students infested with lice require exclusion from school for 24 hours following treatment. The student must provide a note stating type of treatment used.
4. Parents, guardians, or other persons having control of any child who is sick in any way, or who is afflicted with any disease covered by this rule, shall not permit said child to attend any public school or to be present in any public place.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

CROSS-REFERENCE: Wisconsin Communicable Disease Control Measures