

About Head Lice

- Head lice live on the human head and lay eggs called *nits*, which stick to the hair.
- Head lice crawl very fast, but they don't hop, skip, or jump from head to head.
- Head lice infestation is a nuisance but not a health risk.
- Encourage your child not to share combs, hats, or other clothing with other children and check your child's head on a regular basis (for instance, every Sunday evening).

If You Find Head Lice

- Use a commercial product obtained from your doctor or local drug store that is designed to get rid of head lice.
- Be sure to follow the directions carefully. **Don't overuse** these products. For advice on alternative treatments, consult your medical provider.
- Do find and remove all eggs (nits) from the hair. (Flea combs used for pets work very well, or you can remove by hand).
- Do check your child's head every day for two weeks to be sure no eggs were missed by combing hair with a nit comb.
- Do check all members of the family or household and treat only those members affected.
- Do wash linens and bedding in hot water and dry thoroughly.
- Do vacuum carpets, pillows, mattresses, upholstered furniture, and car seats.
- Do place all pillows and stuffed animals used by your child in a hot dryer for 10 minutes or in a tightly closed bag for two weeks.
- Do soak brushes, combs and other hair objects in 130°F water for at least 10 minutes.

Sarasota County School Health Services

1960 Landings Blvd
Sarasota FL 34231

941-927-9000 x32101
941-927-4029 fax

SCHOOL HEALTH IN SARASOTA COUNTY

Screenings
Sickness
Immunizations
Medications



For more information:

sarasotacountyschools.net/departments/schoolhealth

sarasota.floridahealth.gov

www.floridahealth.gov



Partners in School Health:

Florida Department of Health in Sarasota County
Sarasota County Schools

School Health Staff

Florida Department of Health in Sarasota County and Sarasota County Schools work together to safeguard the health of your student. Day-to-day care for students is provided by a health room aide under the supervision of a registered nurse, who may or may not be on campus full time.

The registered nurse coordinates all school health services and is available for you and your child for any health concerns you may have. Your school nurse may be contacted through the School Health Office at 941-927-9000 x32101.

Schoolhouse Link

If your family is in transition, you may qualify for help with a school physical exam, help applying for medical insurance and connecting with community resources. Please call 941-923-6100 for assistance.

Immunizations

Florida Statute 1003.22 requires all students entering and attending school to present a Florida Certification of Immunization form (DH 680) or Religious Exemption form (DH 681) to the school. You can get these forms from your health care provider or Florida Department of Health in Sarasota County's Immunizations clinic.

No-cost immunizations are available to eligible children through the federally funded Vaccines for Children program at Florida Department of Health in Sarasota County. For locations, call 941-861-2900 or visit sarasota.floridahealth.gov. **Bring shot records with you to the clinic.**

Keep a record of all your child's immunizations. **Always send an updated DH 680 form to school after any shots are received.**

For school immunization requirements, please visit sarasotacountyschools.net/departments/schoolhealth.



Examinations and Screenings

How well your child sees and hears can affect his/her ability to learn!

Florida Statute 1003.22 requires any child who is entering a Florida school for the first time to present proof of a physical examination. This exam must include a review of all body systems performed by a licensed medical provider within 12 months prior to enrollment. **A yearly physical exam and twice-a-year dental visits are recommended for all children.**

Screenings Your Child Will Get at School

- Vision: grades K, 1, 3 and 6
- Hearing: grades K, 1 and 6
- Height, Weight and Body Mass Index (BMI): grades 1, 3, 6 and 9
- Scoliosis: grade 6. Scoliosis is a side-to-side curvature of the spine that is detectable in children of middle school age. Early treatment can prevent the condition from becoming severe.

Additional Screening Information

Parents may request in writing any screening at any grade level. Any parent who desires to opt their child out of a screening must do so in writing.

If your child's vision, BMI, hearing or scoliosis screening is outside normal limits, you will receive a letter with information and/or follow-up instructions. The screening and follow-up results will be noted in your child's health records.

Medications at School

When possible, give medications at home.

School personnel will administer approved medications to students during the school day when it is necessary to help them stay in school. In order to administer medication or treatment to your child at school, the following conditions must be met:

1. A Medication/Treatment Authorization Form **signed by you and your doctor** for any medications to be administered in school (including over-the-counter medications) must be on file in school as required by law.
2. Medication must be in the original prescription or unopened over-the-counter container labeled with the child's name, medication name, dosage, and times to be administered.
3. Parent/guardian must deliver the signed Medication/Treatment Authorization Form and medication **directly to the school health room or assigned school board employee** so that medications can be accepted and counted.

When Your Child Is Sick

Staying home when sick will help your child get well and protect classmates. Do not send your child to school if s/he has:

- Bad cough
- Eye infection
- Vomiting
- Severe sore throat
- Diarrhea
- Head lice
- **Fever:** Your child must be free of fever without medication for at least 24 hours
- **Skin rash:** Your child needs a note from a health care provider that s/he is not contagious

