

Downing Middle School

Health Room Information

My name is Diane Manderscheid. I am the school nurse here at Downing Middle School. I am a Registered Nurse and have worked in the Emergency Room and Intensive Care for many years. This is my fourth year as the school nurse at Downing. My main responsibilities include the prevention of illness and injury, and the direct care of the ill and injured. I also keep the state mandated immunization records, provide a broad range of health appraisals, and educate our students about good health practices. Here is a little information about the health services provided to your student.

Health and Emergency Information Cards:

New health and emergency cards will be distributed and sent home each school year. Please list all phone numbers including cell numbers. If these numbers should change during the school year, please notify the main office and they will get this information to me. Please be sure to name **emergency contacts**. These are those people who are permitted to take your child home from school in the event you are unavailable. For the safety of the student, only those people you have designated on this card will be allowed to take your child off the Downing campus. Please list all the **allergies and medications** that your child is taking daily or occasionally. On the back of the card please **list the health problems your child has**. This information will be kept private and only made known to your child's student if there is a need to know, unless you request otherwise.

Immunizations:

Students must be compliant with the mandatory state of Texas immunization requirements. The state controls the immunization laws very strictly. We have no choice but to enforce the administrative code. Students who are not current on their immunizations will not be allowed to remain in school. You will receive the request to obtain an immunization in advance. **If the date arrives and the documentation for the immunization is not in my office,**

you will be contacted by the principal to remove your child from the school until the immunization has been given and shot record is in the health room. This is standard practice throughout LISD.

Medications:

Over the Counter Medications:

Responsible middle school students may carry some over the counter medications, such as Tylenol, Advil, Claritin, cough drops etc. with them to school. All medications must be in the original container. There must be a note from the parent indicating permission and the frequency and conditions under which the student may take the drugs. Students may keep these medicines in their lockers. They need to come to the clinic to take this medicine. This enables me to monitor how frequently they are taking the medicine and to check a temperature if appropriate. **Students are NEVER to share medications with others.**

Prescription Medications:

All controlled substances including Ritalin, pain medication, and other behavior modification drugs, must be locked up in the health room. Prescription medications must be in the original container, with the student's name on the bottle. Prescription medication must be from a state of Texas legal prescriber. **A new medication order must be provided each school year, signed by the parent and the physician.** I have these medication orders forms in the health room. They can also be obtained on the LISD web site under student health. Although I will know your child, I will take a photo of each student with medications in the clinic for identification purposes in the event I will need a substitute.

Health Appraisals:

All students who enter the LISD from another district will get a hearing and vision screening done. Any student can be screened for hearing and vision at the request of a parent or teacher. Our teachers are experts at spotting a student with a vision or hearing problem. Early detection makes a huge difference in the student's grades and self-esteem.

7th grade: All 7th graders will be screened for hearing and vision. If they should not pass the screening, I will do a repeat screening in two weeks. If they do not pass the screening at that time I will notify you by phone and by mail.

8th grade: 8th graders will be screened for spinal curvatures, such as scoliosis, lordosis and kyphosis. These conditions are rare but can become serious. Early detection and intervention will prevent many problems. If the doctor who did your student's sport's physical screened the student and filled out the attached form and you have returned it to the coaches, your student will not be screened. The remainder of the 8th grade will be screened. I will notify you by phone and by mail if your student is not within the normal limits.

Asthma:

Asthma is a problem for many students at Downing. If your child has asthma and uses a rescue inhaler, **it is required that they keep this inhaler with them at all times.** Immediate use of a rescue inhaler does just what the name implies. Be sure that your **student has their name on the inhaler.** Students especially need to have their inhaler with them at P.E., Athletics, and on field trips. Middle school students need to start being responsible about their own health. Carrying their inhaler is a good place to start. I will need to have on file a copy of each student's "**Asthma Action Plan.**" It must be signed by the parent and the doctor. I have these forms in my office, at the front desk and you can obtain one through the LISD web-site, click on student health.

If you have any problems or concerns, or there is any way that I can better serve you or your student, please feel free to contact me at 972-350-1403 or manderscheid@lisd.net.