

Saint Jerome School *Health Services Policies*

Immunization Records

All students must be fully immunized in accordance with the New Jersey Department of Health Minimum Immunization Requirements. We ask that all new students and those students entering grade six, send immunization records to school no later than August 15th. Students must be current on their immunizations upon entering school in September.

[NJ Department of Health immunization requirements for preschool students](#)

[NJ Department of Health immunization requirements for K-12](#)

Saint Jerome Health History and Physical Form

All new students and those students entering grade six are required to provide a Health History and Physical form, completed and signed by the physician. We ask that you send this completed form to school no later than August 15th. This form is available on the SJS website under Health Services.

Conditions and Medications Form

This form will be sent home at the beginning of each year, requesting the following information:

- Any health condition(s) your child has (allergies, ADHD, diabetes, history of seizures, chronic headaches, etc...).
- Any medications that your child takes on a regular basis at home

If any of this information changes during the school year, or there is any new information that the health office would benefit from being made aware of, please send a note into school to the attention of the school nurse.

Physician's Note Required

Absences

A physician's note is required, upon return to school, for any student who is absent for 4 (four) or more consecutive days.

Excused from Gym or May Resume Gym

A physician's note is required for any student with an injury or illness that precludes him or her from participating in gym class, or restricts activity in any way. Please send this note to the attention of the school nurse and/or the gym teacher, *and include the nature of the injury or illness. In addition, a "may return to gym" note from the physician is required as well, if a date is not already provided on the original note.*

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Medication Policy

Medication Administered in School

Any medication, including over-the-counter medication, can be administered by the school nurse *only if* the following conditions have been met:

- Saint Jerome School Medication form (available on SJS website under Health Services) is completed and signed by a physician or nurse practitioner
- Saint Jerome School Medication form is signed by the student's parent, and
- An unopened bottle of medication or a new inhaler is provided. This medication will be labeled with the student's name and will be available for usage during the school year. Medications will be secured in the nurse's office.

Medication in Student's Possession

No student is permitted to have medication in his or her possession, *with one exception*. If the student has been prescribed a rescue inhaler (i.e.: albuterol), and both the physician and the parent have given their written consent, on the Asthma Treatment Plan (see below), to allow student to carry inhaler with him or her, the student **will** be permitted to have the prescribed inhaler in his or her possession during the school day.

Students with Asthma

An Asthma Treatment Plan (available on SJS website under Health Services) is required for those students who have a diagnosis of asthma and require medication to be available to them during the school day

Students with a Food Allergy

A Food Allergy Action Plan (available on SJS website under Health Services) is required for those students who have a diagnosis of a food allergy and require medication to be available to them during the school day.

Fever Policy

A temperature over 100.0°F is considered a fever; please ensure that your child is fever-free for 24 hours **without medication** prior to their return to school

Students Sent Home Due to Illness or Injury

A parent or guardian will be notified. The student will remain either in the health office or school office until a parent or someone responsible for the student arrives.

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Lice Protocol

If your child is found to have head lice, please follow these steps:

- Inform the school office as soon as possible; the school nurse will check all the students in your child's class for head lice that day
- Please treat your child's hair with an over-the-counter or prescription lice treatment
- Ensure that your child is lice-free before return to school. Upon return to school, the school nurse will recheck child's head.

Sports Physicals

All students who are interested in participating on a Saint Jerome sports team – cross country, basketball, cheerleading and/or softball – are required, by the State of New Jersey, to provide preparticipation forms (sports physicals) completed and signed by both the physician and parent prior to tryouts. All forms are available on the SJS website under Health Services. Deadlines are as follows:

- Cross Country – please provide completed forms no later than the **first day of school**
- Basketball – please provide completed forms no later than **October 1st**
- Cheerleading – please provide completed forms no later than **October 1st**
- Softball – please provide completed forms no later than **February 1st**

Annual Health Screenings

Health screening, consisting of hearing, vision and scoliosis exams, and height, weight and blood pressure readings are performed each year by the school nurse, according to the following schedule:

- Height, weight and blood pressure – Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th
- Vision screening – K, 2nd, 4th, 6th and 8th
- Hearing screening – K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 7th
- Scoliosis screening – 5th and 7th (parental consent forms will be sent home prior to screening)

Parents are notified in writing (health screening referral form) of any results that require follow-up with a physician. Please return this referral form to school with the physician's instructions (i.e.: no treatment needed, new glasses, ear tubes, new medication, etc...)