

# Sprague School Nurse

## Nurse Availability in School

Nursing coverage at Sprague is available during all school hours. I am here 4 days each week, with Marianne MacLean as nurse here on Tuesdays. Our goal is to help your child be able to take full advantage of the many educational opportunities here at Sprague, so please contact us if we can be of any assistance. If your child has any specific health concerns or serious allergies, if his or her health status changes, or if there is any way in which I can help, please be sure to let me know. Then we can work together to provide the best environment for your child.



As Sprague School's nurse, I would like to welcome you and your kindergartner to our community. In order to insure the health and safety of all students, I am providing you with this information.

- Sharon Kahn

## Kindergarten Entrance Health Requirements

1. 5 doses DPT/DTaP/DT/Td vaccine (Unless 4<sup>th</sup> on or after 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)
2. 4 doses polio vaccine
3. 2 doses measles vaccine (2 doses measles, 1 dose mumps, 1 dose rubella)
4. 3 doses hepatitis B vaccine
5. Varicella vaccine or physician-certified, reliable history of chickenpox disease
6. Lead test (one time since birth)
7. Physical examination within one year of school entry
8. Distance vision with stereo vision screening (stereo testing checks how well a child's two eyes work together)

Written evidence, signed by your child's physician, is required for all requirements *before* school opens in the fall. Once your child has the five-year-old physical and immunizations, please send the information to Sprague.



## Kindergarten Screenings

All kindergartners have their hearing screened early in the school year. Parents will be informed should any questions arise as a result of these screenings.

At the beginning of the school year you will receive a yellow student information card that should be filled out and promptly returned. This card is extremely important—it provides us with home, cell, and work phone numbers of parents as well as local friends and relatives designated as back-up in the event of an accident or illness

if parents cannot be reached. The emergency permission area must be completed. Please sign to ensure that your child will receive emergency care if it is ever required. Under special considerations, list any medical problems, such as asthma, allergies, etc. Please inform us of any new information during the school year.



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*The medication forms for parents and physician fill to out are available to download from the Wellesley Public Schools' nursing webpage under "Medication Policy."*

## Guidelines for School Attendance

Fever-free for 24 hours or at least 12 hours after fever-reducing medicine such as acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Advil). This means a morning temperature of no higher than 99.4 when taken orally.

On antibiotic therapy for 24 hours when being treated for a contagious bacterial infection. (Ear infections are not contagious so comfort level is your guideline.)

A cold with copious nasal discharge or frequent cough that negatively affects the child's activity tolerance means stay at home to rest.

Stomach ache with vomiting or diarrhea must be resolved for at least 12 hours. The child should be able to keep down foods and liquids.

A good night's sleep the night before; any complaint that causes a significant loss of sleep is reason to stay home.

## Medication in School

It is Wellesley Public Schools' policy, in accordance with Massachusetts law, that nurses dispense medication in school. No medication, prescription or over-the-counter, can be given without a written request from the prescribing doctor and the parent. The medication must be supplied to the school nurse by an adult in its original container.



Please do not send medication with your child to school for self administration. (Teachers may administer medications on field trips if needed.)

## Illness/Injuries in School

Children are encouraged to come to the health office when necessary, for injuries and illness. When warranted, an oral temperature may be taken. Temperatures greater than 99.9 ° F are considered a fever and the child will be sent home. For mild or vague symptoms, children are offered rest in the nurse's office and then encouraged to return to class.

With severe complaints and symptoms, a parent or one of the designated adults listed on the emergency card will be notified. Please see the Sprague School Handbook for further illness guidelines. Appropriate first aid is provided as necessary for any injuries that occur in school. Parents are informed of any significant injuries.

## Head Lice



Lice are a common problem in any place where children congregate. Please inspect your child's head carefully before school begins in the fall and frequently throughout the year. During the first weeks of school, specially trained parent volunteers will check all students. We are always looking for new volunteers to help with the Lice Screening.

Any child found to have lice or nits (eggs) is sent home for appropriate treatment. Before being allowed to return to class, students must be determined by the nurse to be nit-free. It is important that you inform the school if you find lice on your child. We will then institute our lice policies in an effort to contain any spread.

*If you'd like to learn more about the nursing department in Wellesley please check out the nursing web site at:  
<http://www.wellesley.mec.edu/k12/pages/NursServs/pages/nursingk12.htm>*

*Have a wonderful summer! I look forward to meeting you and your child.*

*Sharon Kahn. RN..BSN..MEd.*

