

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AND INFESTATION

Procedures to prevent and manage the spread of communicable and infectious diseases and infestations within Westport Public Schools shall be in accordance with current public health standards and evidence-based practices (i.e., as provided by the Centers for Disease Control at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the Connecticut State Department of Public Health), and expert medical authorities (e.g., Red Book Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Control of Communicable Disease Manual, American Public Health Association; and recommendations of the School Health Committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics). Such procedures shall address pre-entry student health requirements and the exclusion of students with signs or symptoms of a communicable disease or infestation. Students who are temporarily excluded from school for medical assessment and, if indicated, treatment will be readmitted to school with appropriate medical documentation, as defined in procedures, as quickly as possible based on risk of transmission to others.

Confidentiality of students affected by a communicable or infectious disease or infestation will be strictly maintained. When disclosure beyond school health services personnel is **permitted by law and indicated** for the protection of others as determined by the Health Services Supervisor and School Medical Advisor, in consultation with the Director of the Westport/Weston Health District (WWHD) when indicated, such disclosure will be made only to those with a need to know in order to carry out job-specific responsibilities (e.g., principal). If an outbreak of communicable disease occurs, information shared with the general school population (i.e., parents, staff) will be strictly limited based on current pediatric, public health and privacy standards of practice. Public disclosures will never include identifying information regarding affected students. Confidential reports of communicable disease will be made to the Director of WWHD as required by law (Connecticut Public Health Code, C.G.S. 19a-36-A3).