

The New Mexico School Health Manual shall serve as guidelines for implementation of all school health services. The manual shall be available for reference to every principal and instructor.

Plans for emergency care and illness are assumed by the principal or a person designated by him/her. If the school nurse is available, he/she should be consulted. Each school should use the (standardized) form that provides for parental authorization for emergency medical care.

Simple first aid should be carried out by individual instructors or a person designated by the principal. Necessary first aid supplies should be secured from the school nurse, and the supplies should be in rooms or sites where first aid supplies are most likely to be needed

Parents of children with special health problems, such as rheumatic fever, diabetes, epilepsy, etc. should furnish the instructor with written schedules from their physicians, designating permitted activities and instructions for emergencies. A copy of these materials should be in the child's cumulative folder, where the instructors can refer to it when necessary. Problems of vision and hearing should also be part of the child's cumulative folder.

The instructor is responsible for daily observation of students, noting any deviation from normal. Any such deviations should be reported to the nurse for further investigation and follow up.

The school nurse will do routine vision screening and hearing screening by schedule and will take referrals from instructors as time permits. Instructors should assist with reports on observation of potential problems and by working with and cooperating with the nurse.

The nurse is available as a resource person for materials related to health education. The nurse shall be available when instructors believe that it is necessary to discuss individual health problems of a student.

Any child suspected of having a communicable disease should be isolated from class by the school principal until arrangements can be made to send the child home. Re-admission of students should be based on the instructions from the nurse or doctor. Extended absence for health reasons may result in provision of a home-bound instructor for a minimum of five (5) hours per week.

The classroom instructor should maintain a healthful environment in the classroom by proper seating arrangement, temperature, lighting, cleanliness, and above all, a good emotional climate.

A permanent record is kept for each individual child enrolled in the school. This includes health histories, immunizations, and other substantiated findings related to health.