

Nursing at Buxton

- ❖ Buxton's school nurse, Robin Avis, will be in the office Monday-Friday mornings (while classes are in session) from approximately 7:30am-10:30am. She can be reached via phone at 413-458-3919 extension 107 or via email.
- ❖ The nurse's office maintains a supply of over-the-counter medications which are given to students, as needed, if permission has been granted. There is a list of commonly administered medications on the next page for your reference. Students are allowed to keep vitamins, allergy medications, and small quantities of other over-the-counter medications in their rooms.
- ❖ Prescription medications are held in the nurse's office and **may not** stay in a student's dorm room. (Exceptions: asthma inhalers, epi-pens, short-term antibiotics, birth control.) Medications must be dropped off in the nurse's office upon student arrival on campus, in a pharmacy-labeled container.
 - The nurse pours medications based upon the physician-signed Prescription Medication Form, so it is important that this form is up-to-date. If a student prescription is changed, a new prescription form must be completed and sent to Buxton. (Fax is often easiest. Buxton's fax number is: 413-458-9428.)
 - On weekday mornings, students should come to the nurse's office for prescription medications before class. When the nurse isn't on campus (evenings, weekends), students should ask faculty members for medications, and they will give out the pre-poured meds. Both the nurse and all faculty members will ask students to take their medication at the moment they are distributed, but they cannot be strictly monitored for taking their medication. Every student must be responsible for actually taking their medication as directed, without excessive oversight.
 - We have traditionally recommended CVS in North Adams as the best place to refill medications, however we are looking into other options this summer and will follow up soon. For CVS, we recommend registering an account online before the start of the school year & providing necessary information (including insurance and payment information, and Buxton's address for delivery). You should have your student's health care provider send scripts to this pharmacy, and arrange for free delivery to Buxton to begin in September. **Alternatively, if you choose to fill medications at home & mail to Buxton, please make sure address Attn: Robin Avis (or School Nurse) is somewhere in the address.**
- ❖ It is your responsibility to ensure your student's health insurance covers care in Massachusetts. Doctor's appointments are scheduled and hospital visits are made at the nurse's discretion at Northern Berkshire Pediatrics and Berkshire Medical Center.

Initial: _____

(more information on next page)

Protocol for Standing Medication Orders

The nurse or trained faculty may dispense the following medications for symptomatic treatment of students. The student will be screened for any allergies to medication before dispensing.

For each medication dispensed, the administrator will document in record what was given and that it was given per protocol:

1. For upper respiratory symptoms: nasal congestion, drainage, coughing, sneezing
 - Dayquil
 - Nyquil
 - Pseudoephedrine
 - Cough syrup
 - Cough drops

2. For pain or fever
 - Acetaminophen
 - Ibuprofen
 - Midol

3. For heartburn or mild gastrointestinal distress
 - Antacid tablets

4. For hives or swelling due to local allergic reactions
 - Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)

5. For acute anaphylactic symptoms: severe hives, wheezing, oral cavity swelling, shock, stridor, difficulty breathing or swallowing
 - Epi-Pen, **call 911 and notify physician**

6. For diarrhea
 - Loperamide (Imodium)

7. For upper respiratory allergies (allergic rhinitis) or allergic conjunctivitis
 - Loratadine (Claritin)
 - Non-prescription eye drops

If the student's presenting symptoms warrant a doctor's visit (at the nurse's discretion), an appointment will be made at Northern Berkshire Pediatrics. In the case of an emergency, students are brought to the nearest emergency room (typically Berkshire Medical Center - satellite campus in North Adams).

Buxton School operates under supervising physician Kathryn Wiseman, M.D. of Northern Berkshire Pediatrics.

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PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION AGREEMENT

At Buxton, all prescription medications are held in the nurse's office and may not stay in your student's dorm room (asthma inhalers, epi-pens, short-term antibiotics, and birth control are the only exceptions). Upon arrival at Buxton, medications must be dropped off in the nurse's office. They must be delivered in a pharmacy or manufacturer-labeled container. The school nurse pours all medications based upon the orders given on the physician-signed prescription. All medications are handed out daily from the nurse's office and the main office. It is each student's responsibility to come collect their medication at the prescribed times.

To be signed by a parent

I understand that at Buxton School, all prescription medication is kept in the nurse's office – and it is my student's responsibility to collect their medication at the prescribed time(s) each day. My student is capable of taking their medication as prescribed.

(signature)

(date)

To be signed by the student

I understand that at Buxton School, my prescription medication will be kept in the nurse's office, and it is my responsibility to collect my medication at the prescribed time(s) each day. I am capable of taking my medication as prescribed.

(signature)

(date)