

Medical Policies

It is important that every student understand LCA policies concerning medicine and drugs. Please make sure these guidelines are followed:

1. All prescription and nonprescription medication must be brought to the school or day care office by a parent/guardian to be stored in a locked cabinet. Under no circumstances may any student carry prescription or over-the-counter medication with them during the school day. This includes Tylenol, ibuprofen and cough drops. A physician's order must accompany all medication to be dispensed during school hours. Only approved school staff will dispense medication. At no time will the school staff dispense medication other than what is listed on the physician's order and container, to include medication name, dosage and time given. All prescription medication will be dispensed by certified office staff and recorded in the medical log. Medication will be destroyed at the end of the school year if not reclaimed by parents within 2 weeks of the last day of school. Medication will never be given to anyone other than the person for whom it was prescribed.
2. LCA will not dispense any over the counter drugs/cough drops without a written physician's order, medication, times and amounts. This can be done daily up to a week at a time or as a standing order by the physician. All over-the-counter medications must be provided by the parents. LCA will not provide medications to fill over-the-counter physician's orders.
3. Please refer to the attendance section of this handbook for procedures to follow when a student is sick and cannot come to school. Remember, following an absence, a note from parent/guardian or doctor must accompany the student upon return to school.
4. If a student becomes ill while at school, the student should notify the teacher at once. If necessary, the office can contact the parents to arrange early dismissal.
5. Any child with one or more of the following symptoms should not be sent to school:
 - fever (100 degrees +)
 - vomiting anytime within the previous 24 hours
 - diarrhea within the previous 24 hours
 - listlessness or abnormal behavior
 - severe sore throat
 - swollen glands
 - redness in eyes, accompanied by any discharge
 - persistent or productive cough
 - head lice
 - open sore or suspicious rash

If a student is ill and cannot attend school, please phone the school and let the office know not to expect the child that day. If your child has any illness requiring antibiotics, he/she should have taken the antibiotics for at least 24 hours before returning to school. Any child who has been exposed to a communicable disease should be kept home during the incubation and communicable period.

The school reserves the right to cancel the enrollment contract at any time it is determined that any child has been infected with a disease which, once contracted, is likely to cause death or grievous bodily harm, irrespective of how such disease is believed to be transmitted or how remote a likelihood its transmission might be. The school further reserves the right to cancel the enrollment contract should the parent fail to assist the school in making this determination by not testing the child upon the school's request. Tuition refund in such a case follows the guidelines for compulsory withdrawal.

Communicable Disease Policy

While it is not the desire of Lighthouse Christian Academy to discriminate against any student, LCA recognizes that certain life-threatening diseases can afflict children. For those students who are innocently afflicted, LCA has great compassion and sympathy. Still, we are faced with the challenge of providing a safe haven for those students entrusted to our care. Our purpose is to protect students from exposure to mortal illness. We recognize also that LCA with its limited finances and staff may not be equipped to physically care for the needs of very ill students or students with a communicable disease. Children enrolled at LCA or who seek to enroll at LCA, who are diagnosed to be carrying any communicable or potentially lethal disease, will not be permitted to be a student at LCA until they have been evaluated by the nurse and administrative staff and found to not be a threat to the other students within the school, or medically diagnosed as no longer carrying the communicable disease.

This policy is to apply to diseases such as, but not limited to, the following:
Aids, Aids related complex, Anthrax, Botulism, Diphtheria, Encephalitis, Gonorrhea, Hepatitis, HIV, Legionnaires Disease, Malaria, Measles, Meningitis, Mumps, Rubella, Salmonellas, Smallpox, Syphilis, Tetanus, Trichinosis, Toxoplasmosis, Tuberculosis, Tularemia, Typhoid Fever, Typhus, Vibrio Cholerae, or Yellow Fever.

All records are confidential, except when Maryland state law requires inspection by specific authorities. Disclosures of information regarding students' developmental progress, physical or mental conditions, or family circumstances are treated carefully and confidentially, shared only with those who have a need to know in order to provide care for the child.

Head Lice Policy

If head lice are detected while a student is in school, the parent/guardian will be called and the student must be picked up immediately for treatment at home. Students that were sent from school with head lice may return to school the next day with proof (box top) they were treated and brought back to school with their parent/guardian. With the parent/guardian present with the student, the student will be rechecked by the administrator or designee to determine if the student is nit or lice free. If the administrator or designee has determined that the student needs to be retreated for nits or lice, the student will be sent home and will need to be retreated.

The process will continue until all nits and lice have been removed from the student. A telephone call to the school is greatly appreciated if a child has been treated outside the school so the school can be on the lookout for possible other cases. Cooperation and communication between the home and school can help eliminate the spread of head lice in our school.

Vaccinations

All students' vaccination records must be current for continued enrollment in LCA. Updated records must be sent to LCA no later than 9/30 or 30 days from the date of registration. Records can be faxed to 301-777-3495. Failure to provide updated vaccinations or a completed religious exemption form will result in a student dismissal until those records are provided.