



HCA Medical Emergency Policy

1. HCA will provide ongoing and proactive education and communication to staff, students, and families regarding health and hygiene.
2. In the event of a medical emergency, epidemic and/or pandemic, HCA will refer to recommendations from the PA Department of Health in regard to prevention, transmission, and time out of school.
3. If at any point in time more than half of the school staff and /or students is absent due to illness, the administrator may make the decision to close the school and implement the Flexible Education Days or eLearning Days to prevent the spread of further illness. The return to school will be re-evaluated daily.
4. In general, the following medical guidelines are followed:
 - a. For any student with a temperature of 100 degrees or more or who is ill, a parent or guardian will be contacted and asked to pick the child up.
 - b. Student must be fever free (temperature less than 100 degrees without fever- reducing medication) for 24 hours prior to returning to school.
 - c. Students exhibiting signs of illness will be sent to the office and, if necessary, a parent will be contacted.

Addendum for 2020-21 School Year

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the following guidelines will supersede the general medical guidelines:

1. Students exhibiting known symptoms of COVID-19 (such as runny nose, congestion, pink eye, coughing, sore throat, unusual fatigue, redness or swelling of the lips, tongue, hands or feet, muscle aches, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, shortness of breath, chest pain and/or fever) will be sent to the office. A parent or guardian will be contacted to consult with HCA Staff. If the student is *fever free* with *mild* symptoms, such as sore throat and runny nose, they will be allowed to return to the classroom. The student will be closely monitored by HCA staff to ensure their health is not declining throughout the day.
2. If a student tests positive for COVID-19, the student may not come back to school until they are fever free (temperature less than 100 degrees without fever-reducing medications for 3 days AND it has been 10 days or more since the start of symptoms. The student must be cleared by a physician before returning to school.
3. If any household member has tested positive or if a student has had known direct exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, the student should self-quarantine at home for a total of 14 days and participate in eLearning during that time. The student must be cleared by a physician before returning to school.
4. If the student or a household member tests positive for COVID-19, the HCA office should be alerted for proper sanitization and communication purposes. Upon receipt of communication, the HCA Pandemic Team will assess the situation with the consultation of medical professionals to provide timely communication to the HCA families and staff regarding next steps to be taken by HCA to mitigate any further spread of the virus.