



School Nurse Facts

Who is the School Nurse?

- A registered nurse from the Guilford County Department of Public Health and Human Services with skills in public health, mental health, and pediatric nursing
- An advocate for your child's health and safety
- A public health nurse who understands the health laws impacting children
- A nurse educator skilled in teaching students, their parents, and school staff about health

What is the role of the School Nurse?

The school nurse is part of a team of nurses within the Guilford County Department of Public Health that provides students with primary and preventive nursing care. As the health services expert in your child's school, the school nurse takes a lead role in detecting and addressing health concerns, educating students and staff on health issues and helping to manage the care of students with chronic illness and other special health care needs. The nurse supports student learning by working with the school, the parents, and the community.

What services does the School Nurse Provide?

- **Chronic Disease Management and Education** – Develops individual care plans and assists students with care needed during the school day for conditions such as diabetes, asthma, seizures, sickle cell, and severe allergies and provides case management for students with chronic conditions
- **Pediatric Health Care Procedures** – Instructs school staff in a variety of procedures such as blood glucose monitoring, the use of inhalers, Epi-Pens, catheterizations, and tube feedings
- **Health Screening and Referrals** – Conducts screenings such as vision, skin, scalp, orthopedic or nutrition and follows up on dental and other screenings at the request of other professionals within the school system
- **Medication Management** – Monitors and manages student medications according to the Guilford County Schools medication procedure
- **Immunization Monitoring and Follow-up** – Prevents the spread of communicable disease by implementing immunization laws and assists public health immunization clinics to administer certain state recommended vaccines
- **Infectious Disease Control and Surveillance** – Screens students and refers them for medical care, investigates diagnoses reported to the school, and controls outbreaks of disease
- **Health Education** – Promotes healthy lifestyles through the education of groups and individual students, parents, and staff
- **Counseling** – Advises students referred for behaviors that are a threat to health, such as substance abuse and mental health concerns, and makes appropriate referrals
- **School Health Resource** – Shares the latest information and knowledge on school health issues with school staff
- **Parent/Community Involvement** – Promotes parental and community involvement in assuring a healthy school, serves as a liaison between students and other community agencies

School Nurse Facts

Staff:
1 Program Nurse Manager
6 Nurse Supervisors
60 Staff Nurses
2 School Health Aides
1 Dental Hygienist
2 Administrative Assistants (Greensboro/High Point)

Serve:
68,638 Students in grades Pre-K – 12
(Excluding Gateway, C.J. Greene, Herbin-Metz, & Haynes-Inman)

Assignments:
Nurses serve on average 1-3 schools
Recommendation per American Academy of Pediatrics and American Nurses Association is 1 nurse per school.

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