

Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School

RE: Medication Administration, Physical Examination and Immunization requirement

Dear Parents:

Massachusetts Department of Health permission forms must be completed by both physician and parent in order for a student to receive any medication at school. This includes nutritional supplements, herbal medicine, inhalers and over-the-counter medications including Motrin or Advil. Although a student in grade 4 or above may carry his/her inhaler, it is only with written permission of physician and parent. Permission forms are available at the health office or the main school office if needed. Permission forms need to be re-submitted every new school year to the health office. No medication is allowed to be given out from the health office without a permission form on file. Medication to be administered in school must be in a pharmacy prescription bottle.

***If your child is known to have an anaphylactic reaction to any allergen (for example, peanuts, bee-stings, etc) and requires epi-pen administration, please obtain the necessary forms from the health office or the main office. These forms need to be completed by you and your child's physician so that a care plan can be drawn for your child accordingly. If a child needs to carry his/her epi-pen on his/her body during regular school day, a written permission is required from both physician and parent.**

All kindergarten students and newly admitted students need to have current physical and immunization records on file in the health office or the records transferred to the health office from your former school by September 26 of the current school year, **exclusion from school for any non-compliance after the deadline** will be enforced by the head of school if without reasonable explanation.

In order to comply with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 71, Section 57, Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter School requires all 5th and 7th grade students to have a physical exam within this coming school year. Please send in a copy of the required physical to the health office.

Although no immunizations are required for entry to grade 5, a second MMR is required by age 12 or entry into seventh grade. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health's recent changes for immunization requirements include 2 doses varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, one dose of booster TD (if it has been 5 years or more since the last DTP) and 3 doses Hepatitis B vaccine for entry to grade 7.

Yearly postural screening is also required for all students from 5th through 8th grade. This is usually completed during a routine physical exam. Please be sure your physician documents this on your child's physical record for school. If the result of postural screening is not documented, your child will be required to participate in the school's postural screening program scheduled sometime in February or March for all 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th graders.

Last but not the least, please always keep the health office informed if your child has any health issues such as allergies, asthma, etc. that we need to be aware of.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Anna Ng, RN

School Nurse