



مدرسة ديرة الدولية  
DEIRA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
FESTIVAL CITY

 Al-Futtaim Education Foundation

# School Clinic Policy

<b>Date</b>	01 September 2023
<b>Review Date</b>	01 September 2024
<b>Owner</b>	Director
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<b>Version</b>	Version 2
<b>Policy Type</b>	Board
<b>Circulation</b>	External
<b>Date Authorized</b>	01 September 2023
<b>Authorized By</b>	Board of Governors

## **Link to Core Values and Aims**

At Deira International School we aim to keep your children safe and healthy. We do this by ensuring a secure and caring environment where we foster a sense of physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing.

It is important that we comply with the standards and the regulations of the Dubai Health Authority.

To achieve this, we would like to make you aware of the following guidelines and regulations so that you understand how the medical services operate at Deira International School.

## **Facilities and Personnel**

There is a well-equipped clinic in the school with two full-time registered nurses. DIS employs a full-time licensed physician who oversees the clinic. In accordance with the regulations of the Dubai Health Authority (DHA) there are certified clinic assistants available who can provide first aid in case of emergency.

Automated External Defibrillators devices and First Aid kits are available at various locations of the school campus to provide optimal care in case of emergencies.

In case of emergency or illness, the clinic staff will provide parents with a provisional diagnosis; without the availability of diagnostic facilities, it is not possible to make a definitive diagnosis.

Additionally, the clinic staff provide health education and vaccination services.

## **Students' Personal Records in accordance with DHA requirements**

In accordance with the regulations of the Dubai Health Authority (DHA), all schools are required to conduct medical examinations for the following students:

- Foundation stage 1
- Year 2 students
- Year 5 students
- Year 8 students
- Year 11 students
- At any entry to school and for new admissions in any year in school

A personal file is regularly updated for each student where all scheduled vaccinations, annual check-ups (height, weight, BMI, BMI percentile, etc.) and any other visits to the school clinics are recorded. As part of our policy to promote a "Healthy Lifestyle" we also conduct various screening campaigns during the school year (i.e., eye tests, dental check-ups). Parents will be notified in advance about any forthcoming screening that your child may be involved in. Students' medical files will always be handled confidentially.

Parents are required to provide the school with updated vaccination records for their child/children. Vaccinations are usually scheduled twice per academic year. A notification will be sent to parents 14 days prior to the actual date of vaccination. Parents will be asked to sign a consent form and return it to the clinic within 7 days prior to the date of vaccination. Should the parents choose not to have their child/children vaccinated at the school, they are still required to

provide an up-to-date copy of their child/children vaccination records and inform the school if a child receives any vaccinations outside the school.

### **Medical Reports and Medical Alert Forms**

A medical report must be submitted to the school where there is any change in health condition or a new medical condition for your child. Changes in certain health conditions may impact on the wellbeing of the student and any treatment given by the clinic.

If your child has pre-existing medical conditions, the school clinic needs to be notified in advance. An Emergency Alert Form should be prepared by the school doctor for those students who might experience such medical emergencies as allergies, convulsions, anaphylaxis, and diabetic emergencies. Additional members of staff who are in contact with such students will be notified about your child's pre-existent condition and trained accordingly.

### **School Policy on administering medications to a child**

The school clinic has its own supply of medications.

Prior to administering any medication to a primary school child, parents will be notified, and verbal consent will be obtained. However, in case of emergency, and if parents are not contactable, it will be at the discretion of the school doctor to medicate the child (in such cases as high fever, allergic reactions, injuries, etc.)

Students are not allowed to carry any medications around the school, except inhalers for asthmatic students.

If a child needs medication to be administered during school hours, a doctor's prescription needs to be obtained. Medications should be delivered by the parent/guardian to the clinic and can be collected at the end of the school day or at the end of the prescribed course.

Medication that needs to be refrigerated must always be transported with an ice pack rather than ice cubes.

Medications must be sent in their original packaging and should be clearly labelled with the student's name, required dose, timing and route of administration.

If medication has been administered in the morning, a note should be sent to the clinic.

Medications that are dosed twice daily should be administered by parents at home in the morning and after school hours. All medications will be returned once the course of the prescribed treatment is completed.

For those students who need to receive regular doses of prescribed medication (i.e., Insulin, Asthma inhalers, Nebulizers, Eye drops), a consent form needs to be completed which specifies the name of the prescribed medication, required doses and timings. The consent form must be updated accordingly in case of any changes.

For children with illnesses such as anaphylaxis, asthma, epilepsy or Type 1 diabetes, emergency medications (such as Epi-pen, Glucagon, Nebulizer solutions, Asthma Inhalers, Diazepam) must be stored in the school clinic. The medication should be carefully labelled with the student's name, route of administration and the required dose.

As per Dubai Health Authority regulations, antibiotics will not be administered in the School Clinics.

## **Fever**

Children with a temperature above 37.5 C should rest at home. If a child develops a fever during the school day, parents will be notified to collect their child as soon as possible. Children with raised temperatures will not be sent home on a school bus. Children may return to school if they are afebrile for 24 hours without using fever-reducing medications such as Calpol, Adol, Advil, Ibuprofen, etc.

In case of extremely elevated temperature or if the child has a history of febrile convulsions, the clinic staff will immediately medicate the child and begin sponging or bathing him/her to reduce the intensity of the fever. Parents will be told to come to school immediately to collect the child from the school clinic.

## **Contagious illness**

The DHA has clearly documented guidelines for those conditions which require exclusion from the school. The conditions commonly seen are: Conjunctivitis, Chicken pox, Gastroenteritis, Hand Foot and Mouth Disease. However, the list is not limited to the above-mentioned conditions.

If a student develops vomiting and/or diarrhoea, he/she should be seen by a doctor and rest at home for the duration of illness or, if necessary, admitted to the hospital.

The period for each condition varies, so we request that a child receives proper care at home if it is needed, upon returning to school, a certificate from the attending physician or pediatrician must be provided. If the child returns to school prior to the completion of the recommended isolation time, parents will be requested to take their child home.

## **Off-campus injuries and recurrent complaints**

Injuries incurred after or before school hours and those incurred off the school campus, parents will be notified, and the recommended action advised.

Students often present themselves with the same complaints for several days. We aim to provide optimal care; however, it is to be noted that we are not a referral center or a walk-in clinic. Children should be taken to their treating physician.

## **Communication with parents**

Parents will be notified by telephone and/or email.

Clinic staff may contact parents if they need to obtain some information about the child or inform the child's parents about administering medication.

Parents will be informed immediately if their child is unwell and needs to be collected from the school as soon as possible. We will not put a child who is ill or distressed on a school bus. Parents must collect their child as a matter of priority.

The school clinic is not designed to provide the comfort and quiet that is needed during an illness.

Clinic staff can be contacted by telephone in case of emergency or email. Parents may come and meet the school doctor at any time.