



Communicable Disease and Long-Term Illness Policy

Communicable/Infectious Diseases

By law, the Douglas County School District and its charter schools, including North Star Academy, are required to make educational services available to all children who are residents of the District. North Star Academy recognizes, however, that communicable/infectious diseases may impact a student's ability to attend school. Parents are requested to notify the school if their child contracts a communicable disease, infectious condition, or illness and to keep any child temporarily affected thereby out of school until the condition is no longer communicable or until he or she has fully recovered.

North Star Academy will manage common communicable diseases consistent with any applicable local, state, or federal mandates, and appropriate state and local health department information and guidelines. A student who exhibits symptoms of a readily transmissible communicable disease may be temporarily excluded from school attendance.

Students who complain of illness at school may be referred to the school nurse and may be sent home as soon as the parent/guardian or person designated on the student's emergency medical authorization form has been notified.

When information is received by a staff member that a student is afflicted with a serious, readily transmissible disease, the staff member will promptly notify the school nurse or principal to determine appropriate measures to protect student and staff health and safety.

North Star Academy reserves the right to require a health care provider's statement authorizing the student's return to school.

In the case of a broader communicable disease (e.g., COVID 19), North Star Academy will seek to work with the Douglas County School District administration and that of other charter schools to ensure the health and safety of all District children. This commitment includes sharing data and information related to its mitigation strategies and soliciting the same.

Long-Term Illnesses

A child suffering from a long-term physical illness by which he or she is unable to receive reasonable benefit from the ordinary educational program may be determined to be a child with disabilities under state and federal law. Any child determined to have a long-term illness, disease, or infectious condition that is known or reasonably suspected to be communicable, shall be evaluated, staffed, and placed in an appropriate educational program in accordance with applicable law. When appropriate, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment may be requested to become involved. Temporary actions may be taken by North Star Academy to protect health, safety, and welfare of child or others. Neither this policy nor the placement of a child in any particular program shall preclude the North Star Academy administration from taking any temporary actions, including removal from the classroom, as deemed necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the child or others

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