**AACMS Illness Guidelines**

The Arts Academy Charter Middle School has established the following guidelines for sickness. If a student becomes ill, he/she should stay home until fully recovered. If a child develops the following symptoms during the school day, they will be dismissed home. Please do not send your child to school if any of the following symptoms are present:

* **Temperature of 100 degrees or higher**
  + Child should not return to school until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication (Tylenol, ibuprofen)
* **Vomiting related to illness**
  + A child who has thrown up should stay and be monitored at home until they are keeping food and drink down for 24 hours
* **Diarrhea related to illness**
* **Severe coughing**
* **Suspicious skin rash**
* **Disruptive Symptoms**
  + Loud, frequent coughing, frequent bathroom breaks etc. Keep your child home until disruptive symptoms have subsided
* **Contiguous Illness**
  + Ask the doctor if your child is sick with an illness that is contagious. The doctor will tell you when our child is not contagious.

**Early Dismissal due to Illness**

In the event a student experiences a medical condition requiring early dismissal from school, the School Nurse or a designated staff member will contact the student's parent/guardian and/or emergency contact. A student will only be dismissed early due to illness following examination by the school nurse and consent from his/her parent/guardian. Per the AACMS Cell Phone Policy, students may not use a cell phone or other electronic device to call, text, or message a parent/guardian to request an early dismissal. Doing so will result in disciplinary action.

**Medication Procedures**

All medications taken during the school day must be administered by the School Nurse, including both prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines. **Students must have an Authorization for Medication form, completed and signed by a parent or guardian and the student’s health care provider, on file with the Health Room in order to receive medication during the school day**. Parents may not send any medications to school with their student.

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**Additional Medication Requirements**

* All medication must be kept in the Health Room.
* All medications must be in the original container and labeled with the child's name, the name of the medication, the amount to be taken, and the time the child is to take the medication.
* This policy includes all over-the-counter medication including cough drops, allergy medication, cough syrup, cold medication, herbal remedies, and topical ointments.
* Parent/guardian will provide new supply of medication to school as needed.
* Parent/guardian will keep school nurse updated on changes to medications orders, dosing instructions, and diagnoses. A new medication authorization form must be completed by the parent and physician if the dosage is changed at any time.
* **FIELD TRIPS**- medication will NOT be sent on field trip unless specific arrangements have been made with the school nurse.