

## **River Montessori Charter School Health Plan**

**Exams and Immunizations:** On or before the 90<sup>th</sup> day after a student's entrance into first grade at **River Montessori Charter School, "RMCS"** (the "School"), all students must provide a certificate approved by the California Department of Health Services documenting that within the prior 18 months, the child had received the appropriate health screening and evaluation services as provided by Health & Safety Code section 124040. Alternatively, the student must provide a waiver signed by the student's parents/guardians indicating that they do not want or are unable to obtain the health screening and evaluation services for their child. If the waiver indicates that the parents/guardians are unable to obtain services for the child, the reasons why should be included in the waiver. If the student fails to provide the required documentation, the student will be excluded from the School for not more than five days. In limited circumstances, up to five percent of the School's first grade enrollment may obtain exemptions from exclusion if the School contacts the student's parents/guardians at least twice before the 90<sup>th</sup> day after entrance to the first grade and they refuse to provide either a certificate or waiver. These exemptions shall only be used in extraordinary circumstances, including, but not limited to, family situations of great dysfunction or disruption, including substance abuse by parents or guardians, child abuse or child neglect.

**Vision screening: Vision and Hearing Tests:** Within the first three months upon first enrollment in the School, and at least every third year thereafter, the School shall test the student's vision and hearing. The vision test shall include tests for visual acuity and color vision, although the color vision shall be appraised once and only on male students, the results of which shall be entered in the health records and need not begin until the student is in first grade. Classroom teachers are responsible for continuous observation of the appearance, behavior and complaints of students that might indicate vision problems. Where a student's school performance begins to give evidence that the existence of the problem might be caused by a visual difficulty, a visual evaluation shall be done in consultation with the school nurse.

The vision evaluation may be waived by the parents/guardians if they present a certificate from a physician and surgeon or an optometrist setting out the results of a determination of the child's vision, including visual acuity and color. Parents/guardians may also avoid the testing and observation if they file with the School Director a statement in writing that they adhere to the faith or teachings of any well-recognized religious sect, denomination, or organization and in accordance with its creed, tenets or principles depend for healing upon prayer in the practice of their religion.

A parent/guardian may file annually with the School's Director a statement in writing, signed by the parent/guardian, stating that he/she will not consent to a physical examination of his/her child. The student will thereafter be exempt from

physical examinations, but if there is good reason to believe that the student is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the student will be sent home and not be permitted to return to school until the School Director is satisfied that any contagious or infectious disease does not exist.

### **Oral Health**

**Admission:** By May 31 of each school year, students entering kindergarten or the first grade (who have not attended kindergarten) must present proof to the school of having received an oral health assessment by a licensed dentist, or other licensed or registered dental health professional. The oral health assessment must have been performed no earlier than 12 months prior to the date of initial enrollment.

A student may be excused from this requirement if his/her parent or guardian indicates on the approved form provided by the school one or more of the following reasons apply:

- The oral health assessment poses an undue financial burden on the parent/guardian;
- The parent/guardian lacks access to a licensed dentist or other licensed or registered dental health professional; or
- The parent/guardian does not consent to the assessment.

**Notice:** Upon initial enrollment in kindergarten or first grade, the school will notify parent/guardians of the required oral health assessment on the California Department of Education approved form.

**Report to County Office of Education:** By December 31 of each year, the school will submit a report to the Sonoma County Office of Education containing the following information:

- the total number of pupils in the school who are subject to the oral health assessment requirements of the statute;
- the total number of pupils who submitted proof of an assessment;
- the total number of pupils who could not complete the assessment due to financial burden;
- the total number of pupils who could not complete the assessment due to lack of access to a dentist;
- the total number of pupils who could not complete the assessment because their parents/guardians did not consent;
- the total number of pupils who are assessed and found to have untreated decay;
- the total number of pupils who did not return either the assessment form or the waiver request to the school

**Health Education for Students:** Students will receive instruction on pertinent health topics like hand washing, cough etiquette, nutrition, and physical activity from the School Nurse in collaboration with the teachers.

**Health Education for Parents:** Parents will have access to health information on communicable diseases like pediculosis and influenza through the school nurse who will keep a file of health related materials in English and Spanish. This information will include prevention, healthy lifestyle, nutrition and disease specific handouts.

The RMCS website will have a "Health Page" where information may be found concerning current issues effecting students and families.

**Health Education Staff:** Staff will be trained by the School Nurse to safely administer medications to students, on Universal Precautions, sick students, H1N1, and any other current public health issues effecting the health of students in school.

**CPR:** All staff working with children are required to have current CPR training. Only staff who have CPR training are allowed to administer medications.

**First Aid Kits:** First Aid kits are available in each classroom and in the playground area. A large kit will be available with the Office Manager. Staff will be in-serviced on the contents annually.

**TB Tests:** Staff, Enrichment Providers and Volunteers are required to have a current TB test which is valid for four years.

**Food:** Snacks and food provided by RMCS for events or after school will be nutritious. Vending machines, if allowed, will contain wholesome food. No peanuts are allowed in RMCS.

**Illness:** Students and staff will be encouraged to stay home when they are sick. Parents/Guardians or Emergency Contacts will be called immediately to pick up a sick student. Children who come to school with a fever of more than 100.0 F will be immediately sent home. Children with flu-like symptoms will wait in a closed room, away from other staff and students, until they are picked up. If the sick student tolerates it, a mask will be used to cover the students nose and mouth while they wait. Children must stay home for 24 hours after they are no longer febrile without any anti-pyretic medication.

**Students who require medication:** Parents are encouraged to develop an administration schedule so that the student does not need to receive medication during school hours, however, in the event that the student needs a medication administered during school hours or during River Club hours, the parent/guardian

must deliver the prescription medication in its original container. A note must accompany the medication with instructions from the student's physician. A note must also accompany the medication from the parent/guardian requesting that the medication be administered.

**Medication Documentation and Storage:** All medications must be signed in on a medication log sheet and signed out when returned to the parent. All unused medication is returned to the parent/guardian. Medications are kept in a secure, locked cabinet that is inaccessible to children.

A "Medication Permission" sheet must be filled out on each child receiving medications at school.

**Student Files:** Students requiring medication during school time will have a file maintained in a lock file cabinet with all documentation required for administration of medication.

**Adverse drug reactions and Incidents:** A parent/guardian will be notified immediately in case of an adverse drug reaction or incident concerning medication administration. An incident report is filled out for all incidents and accidents (see Incident Form).