



Health Services

Respiratory Failure Emergency Care Plan

Respiratory failure occurs when the body can no longer maintain effective gas exchange. When a child has a chronic respiratory condition, development of respiratory failure may be gradual. Signs will be subtle. Be particularly alert to behavior changes in addition to respiratory signs. *Initial signs:* Restlessness, irritability, rapid breathing, rapid heartbeat, and sweating.

If You See This	Do This
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaint of headache • Mood Changes/Confusion and or anxiety/irritable • Respiratory difficulties • Inability to talk • Nasal Flaring • Wheezing or grunting • Retractions • Color changes/turning blue • Unresponsive/Loss of consciousness 	<p><u>Stay with student, keep student calm/quiet</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call 911 immediately If the student has any of the following symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shortness of breath or respiratory difficulties • Blue or purple coloration of the skin or mucous membranes • Unresponsive/Loss of consciousness • Begin steps of First Aid/CPR if certified as necessary 2. Send for School Nurse and state student's name 3. Notify Administration 4. Nurse /Administration will notify Parent/Guardian

An **Emergency Care Plan (ECP)** is a plan that gives specific steps for school staff to take when a student has a medical emergency. The plan contains a short definition of the condition, signs and symptoms of the health condition that are emergent and a written step-by-step instruction that outlines what school staff should do for that emergency. Skyward provides information regarding the student's medical condition and parental/guardian's contact information. Health Conditions and ECPs are to remain confidential. Please keep in a secure location and not out in the open.

- We ask that teachers familiarize themselves with the ECPs that are applicable to students' health condition/s in their class. Ask privately:
 1. If the student uses emergency medication/s
 2. If the student keeps emergency medication/s with them
 3. If the student keeps emergency medication/s in the schools' clinic
- Fill out the Student Health Condition List. Print out as many as needed or one per class period.
- Leave the Student Health Condition List and ECPs pertinent to current health conditions in the substitute teacher folders in a secure location
- Ask the school nurse to meet in order to answer any questions on student's health condition or to provide training on emergency medication/s