

School Nurse Job Description:

Just looking after the children in a school is not the only part of a school nurse job description. The school nurses also look after the staff. Handling hundreds of children is no mean feat, not to mention the various injuries they sustain in the school. Hence, the school nurses have to be on the alert at all times.

School nurses have a very important job. They have to look after all the children and tend to all their medical needs. Injuries are not the only problems; sometimes a child may develop an illness. In this case, the nurse has to look after the child and ensure their condition does not worsen. They also have to inform emergency services if the condition worsens, and they have to inform the parents of the child.

The school nurses also look after the staff of the school. Many times even they fall ill and it is the school nurse that tends to them. Hence, they have to be familiar with illnesses not only for children, but also adults. They have to help out during vaccination drives in the school. They also have to educate the children on good hygiene and safety methods.

To make work easier for themselves, the school nurses can enquire about all students and what all allergies they suffer from. They can keep this list in their office and if any student has an allergic reaction, they consult the list and administer the required medicine. Doing this can save the life of a child. Many allergies can have fatal reactions. This is an important part of the school nurse job description.

The school nurses play an important role in the education as well. They can spot if children suffer any disabilities, physical or mental. The school nurses can even find out if a child is suffering from abuse, at school or home. Hence, it is extremely important that a school hires a good nurse. To know more, read the school nurse job description.

Duties and responsibilities

1. Organizes the health clinic at the assigned school and supervises the daily activities of assigned treatment nurses and clinic assistants.
2. Evaluates the health status of students at the assigned school by performing health screenings, tests, and physical examinations (i.e. vision, hearing, dental, scoliosis, and blood pressure) and interprets/communicates findings to students, parents/guardians, and school personnel.
3. Provides direct nursing care to students and staff by administering medication, immunizations, first aid, emergency health care, and nursing care prescribed by a medical provider; and accompanies students to the hospital as necessary.
4. Observes students on a regular basis to monitor illness and provide early detection of communicable diseases, child abuse, substance abuse, mental illness, depression, eating disorders, chronic illness, and physical defects; makes referrals to other professional staff members and community agencies as needed; and communicates findings to parents/guardians as appropriate.
5. Improve attendance by reducing time lost to illness and injuries.
6. Reports suspected cases of child abuse and neglect through the proper channels.

7. Serves as liaison between the school and family physicians to promote effective patient case management.
8. Enforces established infection control policies and procedures on the exclusion and readmission of students with infectious and contagious diseases.
9. Provides health counseling to individual students and parents/guardians regarding disease, emotional distress, pregnancy, and other health related issues as appropriate.
10. Acts as member of the eligibility/child study team and assists with formulating an appropriate health care plan for special needs and medically fragile students at the assigned school.
11. Maintains compliance with Individualized Education Plans (IEP) / Individualized Health Care Plans (IHP) and may perform specialized nursing care such as catheterizations, suctioning, and tracheotomy care.
12. Serves as a resource to teachers and staff at the assigned school regarding the health needs of students and recommends modifications of the student's educational program/environment as necessary.
13. Participates in school-based committees regarding the health and wellness of students to include crisis team and the substance abuse team.
14. Provides health educational materials and presents at workshops to students, staff, and parents/guardians on such topics as first aid, sound health/nutrition, eating disorders, Bloodborne pathogens, and proactive strategies for achieving and maintaining good health in children.
15. Ensures that sanitary standards of the school's health clinic are being met and maintains OSHA standards regarding Bloodborne pathogens and other potentially infectious body materials.
16. Assists school personnel with inspecting the assigned school for health/medical hazards; and recommends appropriate corrective action.
17. Maintains proper documentation and health records on all students within the assigned school, prepares/submits reports as required, and utilize the nursing components of the ESIS computer system.
18. Complies with laws, regulations, protocols, and School Board policies/procedures as they apply to school health services.
19. Requisitions needed supplies and equipment for the health clinic at the assigned school.
20. Models nondiscriminatory practices in all activities.

Other Duties

1. Maintains professional competence and keeps abreast of new developments in the health field.
2. Performs any other related duties as assigned by the Principal & Supervisor I (Health Services) or appropriate administrator.

Job Specifications

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily.

The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable individuals with disabilities, who are otherwise qualified, to perform the essential functions.

Education

They should be registered nurses with a degree from nursing school

Even associate degrees for nursing are acceptable

They also have to clear the licensure exam for nurses