

Alberta Health Services works with parents, schools & community agencies to provide a range of coordinated health services for school age children and their families. Our common goal is to improve students' health & learning outcomes. A variety of health services are provided.

Nursing

Promoting Health

Registered Nurses work with school staff & families to:

- support teachers with their core health education curriculum, such as sexuality, hygiene and body image
- provide health resources
- assist with referrals for health concerns, such as vision and hearing
- link children/families with community agencies
- promote health in areas, such as, healthy eating, active living, positive mental health, injury prevention, dental health, sexual health, tobacco/addictions prevention and reduction

Communicable Disease Control

Registered Nurses provide:

- communicable disease surveillance through monitoring of school absenteeism rates
- infection control consultation
- communicable disease follow-up for students

Immunizations

Kindergarten children aged 4 to 6 are recommended to have their preschool immunizations at the Public Health Centre.

Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses provide immunizations to students in schools, with parent/guardian consent.

- Grades 1 through 9: Immunization records are reviewed and parents/guardians are notified if their children are due for any vaccines
- Grade 6: Hepatitis B & Human Papillomavirus immunizations
- Grade 9: Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough) immunization booster, meningococcal & Human Papillomavirus immunizations

For more information about immunizations please go to: www.immunizealberta.ca or call your local public health centre.

Dental/Oral Health

In all schools:

Kindergarten to Grade 3 Oral Health lesson plans and education resources are available at

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/services/Page13173.aspx>

Grade 4 to 6 Oral Health lesson plans and education resources are available from the school nurse.

In designated schools:

Dental screenings and fluoride varnish applications for Kindergarten to Grade 2 Students.

Dental Sealant applications for Grade 1 and 2 students.

Follow-up with parents for urgent concerns.

Speech and Language

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) and SLP Assistants work with students, parents and school staff to help students in a variety of areas, including:

- using and understanding words and sentences (e.g. sharing stories, following classroom instructions)
- social language skills (e.g. relating to friends, problem-solving)
- sound awareness skills
- saying speech sounds
- stuttering
- voice and resonance concerns

Services may include:

- workshops, strategies and suggestions for parents and teachers
- collaboration with other professionals to support parents, teachers and students
- classroom programs & group intervention
- individual supports: assessment, consultation and intervention

For more information, talk to your school principal or call 780-735-3039.

Occupational Therapy (OT)

OT's & OT Assistants collaborate with parents, teachers, students and other health professionals to help students develop skills, learn and participate in school. Support is provided for:

- self-regulation & executive functioning skills
- daily living skills: feeding, dressing, toileting, etc.
- assistive technology, equipment & environmental modifications
- hand function & visual perception: printing, writing

Services may include:

- workshops, strategies & suggestions for parents/teachers
- collaboration with other professionals
- classroom programs & group intervention
- individual supports: assessment, consultation & intervention

For more information, talk to your school principal or call 780-408-5881 (Edmonton City proper) or 780-413-5776 (surrounding areas).

Addiction Prevention & Mental Health Promotion

Prevention and Promotion Consultants support communities, school divisions, and schools by providing consultation, services and resources, including teacher toolkits with lesson plans.

Contact: prevention.edmonton@albertahealthservices.ca or 780-644-3634.

Web resources at: <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/Page2909.aspx>

Child and Adolescent Addiction And Mental Health Programs provide crisis and treatment services to youth 5 to 17 years old and their families.

Intake & Program Information.....780-342-2701

The website, <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/csh.asp>, includes the *Provincial Teacher Resource List* which provides information and resources to support teachers in creating a healthier school community and in teaching the curriculum.