



Spinal Screening Notification Information

Spinal screening for all students in grades 6 and 9 will be conducted this school year. The purpose of spinal screening is to detect the signs of abnormal curves of the spine at their earliest stages so that the need for treatment can be determined. Scoliosis, a common spinal abnormality found in adolescents, is a sideways twisting of the spine. It is usually detected in children between 10 and 14 years of age. Kyphosis, sometimes called round back, is an exaggerated rounding of the upper back and is often confused with poor posture. Many cases of curvature of the spine are mild and require only ongoing observation by a physician when they are first diagnosed. Others can worsen with time as the child grows and require active treatment such as bracing and surgery. Early treatment can prevent the development of a severe deformity, which can affect a person's appearance and health.

The procedure for screening is simple. Screeners who have been specially trained will look at your child's back while he/she stands and then bends forward. For this examination, boys and girls will be seen separately.

ALL STUDENTS SHOULD DRESS APPROPRIATELY TO ALLOW THE SCREENER TO VISUALIZE THE UPPER BODY AND SPINE. STUDENTS WILL NOT BE SCREENED IN THEIR UNDERGARMENTS.

Parents will be notified of the results of the screening only if professional follow-up is necessary. This screening procedure does not replace your child's need for regular health care and check-ups.

The scheduled date for this screening is BEGINNING JANUARY 9,2017. MOST STUDENTS WILL BE SCREENED DURING PE CLASS OR OTHER ELECTIVE.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the nurse at your child's school.