State Schools
Nursing Service
What is the State Schools Nursing Service?

The nursing service is provided to state schools by the Department of Education to support reasonable adjustments for students with specific health needs to access, participate and achieve in education. Services include collaborative risk assessment and development of individual health plans that reflect daily routines, as well as step-by-step emergency school health plans.

State Schools Registered Nurses (SSRNs) provide support and training for school staff to manage a specific health procedure such as the use of feeding devices. Working collaboratively with students, their families, school staff and treating health teams, SSRNs help to minimise the impact of the student’s health needs on their learning. Ongoing support and refresher training is also provided.

Who is eligible for nursing services?

The State Schools Nursing Service (SNSS) is available for students enrolled in any Queensland state school or registered for an early childhood development program (ECDP). Students who require a specific health procedure or intervention during school hours or whose health condition is not easily managed without nursing support may be eligible for nursing services.

Building and maintaining school capability to support student inclusion is a high priority for the department.

What services are available?

Nursing services are available to support a range of health conditions such as:

- tube feeding and the use of feeding devices
- urinary catheterisation or urostomy/Mitrofanoff use
- airway/tracheostomy support and oral suctioning
- oxygen therapy and safe management
- stoma or collection bag attachment device
- diabetes management and the use of associated technologies
- epilepsy support and seizure management including administration of emergency medication e.g. Midazolam.

SSRNs provide practical training for:

- anaphylaxis with administration of adrenaline auto-injector (EpiPen®) training
- asthma management and asthma first aid.
How are nursing services requested?

The principal, in consultation with the parent or carer, will complete a Student referral – Request for nursing services. Schools can access this form via OnePortal (search ‘Nursing referral’) or contact a local SSRN.

Parents and treating health practitioners who wish to request the provision of nursing services should contact the principal of their child’s school.

SSRNs determine if the referral meets eligibility for service provision. Questions about services or the referral process should be directed to a local SSRN, the Regional Clinical Nurse Consultant or the Senior Nurse Manager.

Who do SSRNs liaise with?

With permission from the student, parent or carer, the SSRN will liaise and work collaboratively with:

- the student’s local doctor or treating health team to understand the specifics of the student’s health support needs and to develop the student’s Individual or Emergency Health Plan
- the classroom teacher to ensure the student’s health needs are understood and to promote self-care and independence
- relevant therapists or allied health professionals to provide a multidisciplinary approach for improved student outcomes
- senior school staff to support students with specific health needs to transition from early years to primary and Year 6 to high school.

What support is available for school camps, excursions and off-site activities?

When planning for camps and excursions, SSRNs are able to provide additional support including:

- advice for risk assessment e.g. camp checklists
- training for procedures normally attended to at home
- development of camp specific health plans.

Note: For the best outcome, please contact the SSRN early in the planning phase.

Is there a cost for nursing services?

The department provides nursing services at no cost to schools or families. The service is focused on supporting reasonable adjustments to enable students to participate and learn on the same basis as all other students.

Who to contact?

For assistance, contact the State Schools Registered Nurse at the nearest school location, the Regional Clinical Nurse Consultant or visit qld.gov.au/SchoolNursing

“Your flexibility, expertise and thorough delivery of training ensured our rather anxious staff have had their fears allayed and feel 100% capable of supporting students with complex health needs.”

Terese Jarmain, Minimbah State School
State Schools Nursing Service school locations

Metropolitan Region
Calamvale Special School – (07) 3712 5555
Ipswich Special School – (07) 3813 5777
Geebung Special School – (07) 3632 1777
Warilda Precinct, Wooloowin – (07) 3215 9222
Mt Ommaney Special School – (07) 3717 6888
Nursery Rd State Special School, Mt Gravatt – (07) 3308 6333
Narbethong State Special School, Buranda – (07) 3823 0777
Red Hill Special School – (07) 3291 9333

North Coast Region
Albert State School, Maryborough – (07) 4120 0888
Bundaberg Special School – (07) 4155 5222
Caboolture Special School – (07) 5431 4444
Cooroy State School – (07) 5472 2100
Maroochydore State School – (07) 5475 1555
Nambour Special School – (07) 5444 9333
Pialba State School – (07) 4197 7777
Pine Rivers Special School – (07) 3285 0555
Thabeban State School – (07) 4150 8333
Woody Point Special School – (07) 3480 4333

Darling Downs South West Region
Clifford Park Special School, Toowoomba – (07) 4614 5333
Dalby South State School – (07) 4672 3848
Stanthorpe State High School – (07) 4681 5888
Taabinga State School, Kingaroy – (07) 4164 9111
Toowoomba West Special School – (07) 4638 6333

South East Region
Beaudesert State School – (07) 5540 1111
Beenleigh Special School – (07) 3380 1111
Logan City Special School – (07) 3489 6333
Mudgeeraba Special School – (07) 5559 3333
Pimpama State Primary College – (07) 5549 5333
Redlands District Special School – (07) 3488 6333
Southport Special School – (07) 5552 0333
Upper Coomera State College – (07) 5580 7555

Central Queensland Region
Emerald North State School – (07) 4988 2333
Park Avenue State School, Rockhampton – (07) 4931 1111
Rosella Park School, Gladstone – (07) 4976 8333
Victoria Park State School, East Mackay – (07) 4951 6333

North Queensland Region
Proserpine State School – (07) 4940 6333
Townsville Community Learning Centre – (07) 4759 4111

Far North Queensland Region
Far North Qld Regional Office – (07) 4037 3822

Regional Clinical Nurse Consultants
Central Queensland – (07) 4842 8347
Darling Downs South West – (07) 4638 6333 or 0475 815 222
Far North Queensland – (07) 4842 8347
Metropolitan – (07) 3436 6286
North Queensland – (07) 4842 8347
North Coast – (07) 5352 9281
South East – (07) 5617 6140

Statewide
Senior Nurse Manager – (07) 3436 6276 (Mon, Tues) or (07) 3513 5805 (Wed, Thur, Fri)
CNC (Advisor) – (07) 3004 7831 (Mon, Tues, Wed) or (07) 3513 6670 (Thur, Fri)