

NATCHAUG HOSPITAL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

TITLE: SCHOOL SEARCH

Policy#: 1.19

Section: Community Programs

Subsection: School Programs

Scope:

Natchaug Hospital school programs.

Policy:

The intention of a search is to ensure student and colleague safety within the program.

Procedure:

All students are subject to a search upon arrival including, but not limited to, hoods, backpacks, pockets, and shoes. Metal detection wandings of students may occur at the discretion of the program principal or designee. Students who do not consent to searches may be excluded from the school community. If there is a reasonable suspicion of contraband, the police may be notified. Students may be excluded from the school community if contraband is found.

Backpacks are secured upon arrival. Items from home are limited to items approved by the school administration and clinical team.

Students may be subjected to an individual safety plan requiring additional searches, or elimination of backpacks for a designated time or pending a Planning and Placement Team meeting.

Desks and school lockers are the property of Hartford HealthCare and are loaned to students. A school administrator may search a student's desk or locker for the presence of, and seize, any contraband or weapons at any time.

We may request access to a phone if there is a reasonable suspicion of a safety concern. If not provided, parents or guardians and/or authorities may be notified.

Only administrators, or trained designees, may conduct searches. Only Certified or licensed colleagues may serve as the designee.

All searches of students shall be carried out in the presence of another adult witness.

Strip searches of students shall not be conducted.

Deviations from this policy may be considered by the Director of Schools and/or with collaboration with the State Department of Education or the Planning and Placement Team.

Issued: 11/2023

Replaces:

Revised: