



## District 2 Public Health

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Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White Counties

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Dear Parents,

Within the next few weeks, our school and the Forsyth County Health Department will conduct a Scoliosis Screening Program to find children with suspected curvature of the spine. The screening will be held during the school day here at the school.

According to available information, seven to ten children in every 100 may develop scoliosis and one to three will require treatment. If this condition is detected early, and appropriately treated, progressive spinal deformity can be prevented.

The procedure is a simple, painless, 60 second test in which the nurse looks at the student's back in the standing and forward bending positions. Boys and girls will be screened separately. If your child has a suspected curvature you will be notified by mail.

In an attempt to make the scoliosis screening process go smoothly we ask that parents discuss with their child how the process will work. Please advise them to wear only one layer of clothing on the day of the screening. Multiple layers of clothing delay the screening process. Since it is necessary for us to view your child's spine, we will need them to remove their shirt. If your child is uncomfortable removing their shirt please encourage them to wear a bra, sports bra or bathing suit top under their shirt. The children are screened separately and only the nurse will be viewing their spine. All attempts will be made to respect each student's privacy and modesty.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the school nurse or the Forsyth County Health Department.

Thank you,

The Forsyth County Health Department

## Georgia Scoliosis Screening Program Refusal Form

Dear Parents:

Within the next few weeks, our school and the local County Health Department will conduct a Scoliosis Screening to find children with suspected curvature of the spine. In Georgia, scoliosis screenings are required by law in at least two grades – sixth, seventh or eighth; we will be screening seventh and eighth grade students.

According to available information, seven to ten children in every 100 may develop scoliosis; and one to three will require treatment. If this condition is detected early and appropriately treated, progressive spinal deformity can be prevented.

Scoliosis Screening is a simple, painless process that only takes about 30 seconds. Girls and boys will simply take off their shirts for the screening; girls and boys will be screened separately. A person trained to recognize scoliosis observes the child's spine—first with the child in a standing position and then with the child bending forward and away from screener. If the child's back, shoulders or hips seem uneven, the screener will recommend further follow-up to determine if scoliosis is present. You will receive by mail a Parent Notification and Referral Form if your child needs to be seen by a doctor for further evaluation for scoliosis.

If you **DO NOT** want your child to be screened as outlined above, complete the information below on the left side of this Form. If your child is already under care for spinal problems, please complete the information below on the right side of this Form. Please return this Form to the school as soon as possible; prior to the scoliosis screening date.

Sincerely,

*Mr. Steve Miller*

Principal, Otwell Middle School

**I do not want** my child to be screened for  
Scoliosis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**My child \_\_\_\_\_ is  
currently** under medical care/observation  
for spinal problems

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian