



ETC International College

Communicable Diseases Policy and Procedures

June 2024

Rashes and Skin Infections

Condition	1 st Action	2 nd Action	3 rd Action	4 th Action	5 th Action	Comments
Athlete's Foot	Check that the infected area(s) have not been in direct contact with anybody else's bare skin, or that the infected person has not walked bare foot in any part of the school.	Inform anyone who has been exposed to the condition of the appropriate action.	Any potentially infected person should seek medical advice. Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.			The condition is not serious but requires treatment. Provided that the infected person keeps their feet covered, they do not need to be kept away from school.
Chickenpox	Any infected person should be kept away from the school for a minimum of five days from the onset of the rash.	Inform anyone who has been exposed to the condition, particularly any pregnant women and vulnerable children. Vulnerable children include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers as they have reduced immune systems.	Pregnant women who have been exposed to the virus should inform their GP and midwife. A blood test to check for immunity should be arranged. Vulnerable children should also seek further medical advice.	Any areas that the infected person may have been in contact with must be cleaned thoroughly by cleaners wearing PPE.		
Cold Sores (Herpes simplex)						Avoid kissing and contact with the sores. Cold sores are generally mild.

German Measles (rubella)	Any infected person should be kept away from the school for a minimum of six days from the onset of the rash.	Inform anyone who has been exposed to the condition, particularly any pregnant women.	Advise anybody who has not received the vaccination to do so. Any pregnant women who have come into contact with German Measles should inform their GP to ensure investigation.	Any areas that the infected person may have been in contact with must be cleaned thoroughly by cleaners wearing PPE.		
Hand, foot and mouth	Inform anyone who has been exposed to the	Any contaminated areas (particularly the toilets) should be thoroughly	Contact the local HPU if a large number of people are affected.			Encourage hand-washing after going to the toilet and ensure that anybody who comes into contact

	condition.	cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.	Exclusions may be considered in some cases.			with the fluid from blisters or the saliva of an infected person wears latex gloves.
Impetigo	Any infected person should be kept away from the school for two days after commencing antibiotic treatment or until lesions are healed.	Inform anyone who has had direct contact with the infected person – i.e. people who have touched their bare skin.	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.			The infected person should speak to their GP as antibiotic treatments speeds healing.
Measles	Any infected person should be kept away from the school for a minimum of four days from the onset of the rash.	Inform anyone who has been exposed to the condition, particularly any pregnant women and vulnerable children. Vulnerable children include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers as they have reduced immune systems.	Any pregnant women who have come into contact with Measles should inform their GP to ensure investigation. Vulnerable children should also seek further medical advice.	Advise anybody who has not received the vaccination to do so.	Any areas that the infected person may have been in contact with must be cleaned thoroughly by cleaners wearing PPE.	
Molluscum Contagiosum	Inform anyone who has had direct contact with the infected person – i.e. people who have touched their bare skin.	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.				The condition is self-limiting. Any infected person does not need to be kept away from school.
Mumps	Anyone affected should stay away from the school for at least five days after the symptoms first start to occur.	Advise anybody who has not received the vaccine to do so.				If you are unvaccinated, avoid close personal contact with anyone with mumps.
Ringworm	Inform anyone	Any contaminated areas				Any infected person does not need

	who has had direct contact with the infected person – i.e. people who have touched their bare skin.	should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.				to be kept away from school but should contact their GP to seek treatment.
Roseola (infantum)	Inform anyone who has been exposed to the condition.	Any contaminated areas (particularly the toilets) should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.				Encourage hand-washing after going to the toilet. The infected person does not need to be kept away from school.
Scabies	The infected person must be kept away from school until after their first treatment.	Inform anyone who has had direct contact with the infected person – i.e. people who have touched their bare skin. Household and close contacts also require treatment.	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.			
Scarlet Fever	Any infected person should be kept away from the school for at least 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment.	Inform anyone who has been exposed to the condition, particularly any pregnant women.	Any pregnant women who have come into contact with Scarlet Fever should inform their GP to ensure investigation.	Any areas that the infected person may have been in contact with must be cleaned thoroughly by cleaners wearing PPE.		
Slapped Cheek / Fifth Disease	Inform anyone who has been exposed to the condition, particularly any pregnant women.	Any pregnant women who have come into contact with Slapped Cheek should inform their GP to ensure investigation.	Any areas that the infected person may have been in contact with (particularly the toilets) must be cleaned thoroughly by cleaners wearing PPE.			Encourage hand-washing after going to the toilet. The infected person does not need to be kept away from school.
Shingles	Any infected person should be kept away from school for at least	Inform anyone who has been exposed to the condition, particularly any pregnant women.	Pregnant women who have been exposed to the virus should inform their GP and midwife.	Any areas that the infected person may have been in contact with must be cleaned		Anyone who has not had chickenpox is particularly vulnerable to shingles.

	seven days from when the blisters appear.			thoroughly by cleaners wearing PPE.		
Warts and Verrucae	Check that the infected area(s) have not been in direct contact with anybody else's bare skin, or that the infected person has not walked bare foot in any part of the school.	Inform anyone who has been exposed to the condition.	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.			Provided that the infected person keeps their warts covered, they do not need to be kept away from school.

Diarrhoea & Vomiting

Illness	1st Action	2nd Action	3rd Action	Comments
Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	Anyone affected should be kept away from the school for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.	Any contaminated areas (particularly the toilets) should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.		
E.coli 0157 VTEC Typhoid Shigella	Anyone affected should be kept away from the school for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea.	Any contaminated areas (particularly the toilets) should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.	Consult the local HPU for further advice.	Further exclusion may be required for young children under the age of five who have difficulty maintaining hygiene standards.
Cryptosporidiosis	Anyone affected should be kept away from the school for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea.	Any contaminated areas (particularly the toilets) should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.		Exclusion from swimming is advisable for two week after the diarrhoea has settled.
Norovirus	Anyone affected should be kept away from the school for 72 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.	Any contaminated areas should be closed during the outbreak.	Any contaminated areas (particularly the toilets) should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.	The virus is particularly hard to kill off when cleaning. It is advised that hypochlorite solution is used on hard surfaces. Temperatures in excess of 60° can also kill the virus so steam cleaning should be used to clean soft furnishings.

Respiratory Infections

Infection	1st Action	2nd Action	3rd Action	4th Action	5th Action	Comments
Influenza	Anyone affected should stay away from the school for as long as it takes to recover.	Inform any vulnerable children who may react particularly badly to such an infection. These include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers as they have reduced immune systems.	Advise vulnerable children to be vaccinated.	Vulnerable children should seek further medical advice.	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.	
Diphtheria	Anyone affected should stay away from the school until their doctor says it is safe for them to return.	Inform the HPU. They will organise any tracing if necessary.	Advise anyone who has not had the vaccine to do so.	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.		
MERS	Anyone affected should stay away from school until their doctor says it is safe for them to return.	Inform any vulnerable children who may react particularly badly to such an infection. These include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers as they have reduced immune systems.	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.			
SARS	Anyone affected should stay away from school for at least 48hrs after their temperature has returned to normal.	Inform any vulnerable children who may react particularly badly to such an infection. These include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers as they have reduced immune systems.	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.			Close contacts are at risk for at least ten days after their last contact with the infected person.
Tonsillitis	Anyone affected should stay away from the school for as long as it takes to recover.	Inform any vulnerable children who may react particularly badly to such an infection. These include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers as they have reduced	Vulnerable children should seek further medical advice.	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.		

		immune systems.				
Tuberculosis	Anyone affected should stay away from the school for at least 2-3 weeks after commencing treatment. Their doctor must approve them to come back to school.	Consult the local HPU.	Inform anyone who has been exposed to the illness.	Advise people to get the BCG vaccination.	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.	
Whooping Cough	Anyone affected should stay away from the school for five days after commencing antibiotic treatment. If no treatment is sought, they must stay away for 21 days from the onset of the illness.	Inform the local HPU who will organise any necessary tracing.	Inform anyone who has been exposed to the illness.	Advise people to be vaccinated.	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.	

Other Diseases

Disease	1 st Action	2 nd Action	3 rd Action	4 th Action	5 th Action	Comments
Hepatitis B & C, HIV and AIDs	It is safe to have people with these diseases in the school provided that they are feeling well. If they are sick, they should stay away from the school as any other sick person would; not because they pose a great risk to anyone else.	Confidentiality must be respected.	Anyone administering first aid to a person with one of these diseases should be particularly careful not to get the patient's blood on themselves. If they do, they must wash it off immediately and seek further medical advice.	A vaccine for Hepatitis B is available to anyone who is at a special risk of contracting the disease. Advise anyone who qualifies for this vaccine to get it. School staff are not generally considered to be at particular risk.		These are different diseases but are spread in similar ways so it is convenient to group them together for the purpose of this guidance.
Hepatitis A	Anyone affected should stay away from school for seven days from the	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners				

	onset of the jaundice.	wearing PPE.				
Meningitis and Septicaemia	Action is only required when there is suspicion that the meningitis or septicaemia is caused by the bacterium <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> .	If action is required contact the HPU. If more than one case occurs within a school further action will be required. This could include taking throat swabs, giving out antibiotics or offering the vaccine. This will be at the discretion of the HPU.	Any contaminated areas should be thoroughly cleaned by cleaners wearing PPE.			
MRSA	Contact the HPU if you have any concerns.					Carrying MRSA is not a reason for staying away from school. It can be removed by general cleanliness. Hospital patients are most at risk.

Notes:

- If the school suspects an outbreak of a communicable disease, they should inform the Consultant in Communicable Disease Control.
- The Environmental Health Officer should be informed in the event of any outbreaks of food poisoning, vomiting and diarrhoea.
- If the Consultant in Communicable Disease Control or the Environmental Health Officer confirms the outbreak, the council's health and safety service should be informed.
- The risk of communicable diseases can be reduced significantly by encouraging basic hygiene.
- All female staff under the age of 25 who work with young children, should have evidence of having had two doses of the MMR vaccine.
- Anyone administering first aid must wear gloves to prevent the transmission of diseases. Some people have allergies to latex so latex-free alternatives should be used. Please note, latex can also be found in some plasters. Hands must be washed both before and after carrying out first aid procedures and any waste must be discarded in a securely sealed plastic bag. If a significant amount of blood is involved, an apron should be worn by the first aider. If blood splashes on to the skin it should be washed off with water and soap. Splashes of blood into the eyes and mouth should be washed out immediately with water. Any staff member who believes they may have had blood/body fluid contact with a carrier of Hepatitis or HIV should seek immediate medical advice.

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Next update due June 2027