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SCHOOL DISTRICT

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R 8451 CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Detection of communicable diseases

- 1. Teachers will be trained to detect communicable diseases in pupils by recognizing the symptoms of disease.
- 2. In general, a pupil who shows one or more of the following symptoms should be sent to the school nurse for evaluation and/or treatment:
- а. Pain, generalized or specific; Chills; b. Fever; c. d. Earache; e. Vomiting; f. Sore throat; Enlarged glands; q. h. Skin eruption; i. Running nose: or Red and discharging eyes. j. k. Itching-head or skin extreme fatigue 1.
- 3. A pupil who shows symptoms of any of the following communicable diseases should be sent promptly to the school nurse for evaluation.
- a. Chicken Pox (Varicella): small, reddish, itchy eruptions usually on covered parts of the body resembling pimples or blisters later fill with fluid and form crusts: slight fever Spread: direct contact, droplet, airborne.

 Spread: direct contact, droplet, airborne
 Period of Contagion: 1-2 days prior to rash until 5 days

Period of Contagion: 1-2 days prior to rash until 5 days after onset of rash. Incubation Period: from 11-20 days Vaccine: available, but not required for school

Exclusion from School: may not return until lesions are dry and crusted. Caution: no salicylates - risk of Reye's Syndrome.

b. Conjunctivitis (pink Eye): redness of eyes, itching, discharge and may be light sensitive



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Spread: direct contact, contaminated articles, possibly airborne. Period of Contagion: until treated Incubation Period: 2-14 days Exclusion from School: may return after treatment and discharge has ceased

- c. Fifth Disease (Erythema Infectiosum): fine rash, most apparent on cheeks (slapped cheek) which later spreads to body as a lace like rash; low-grade fever. Spread: unknown possibly resp. secretions. Period of Contagion: usually for a few days after onset of rash. Incubation: from 4-20 days Vaccine: not available Exclusion from School: may return when afebrile and treating physician allows.
- d. German measles (Rubella): a common cold followed by a light, blotchy red rash on Face and body; swollen glands behind ears; slight fever Spread: direct contact or droplet infection Period of Contagion: from 7-10 days before rash until 5-7 days after onset of rash Incubation Period: 14-21 days Vaccine: available and required for school admittance Exclusion from School: 7 days after onset of rash.
- e. Hepatitis A (Infectious Hepatitis): fatigue, low-grade fever, loss of appetite, nausea, abdominal pain, fecal t oral route, jaundice. Spread: person to person, food borne and water borne Period of Contagion: 1-3 weeks Incubation Period: 15-50 days Vaccine: available, but not required for school Exclusion from School: one week after onset of illness and jaundice has disappeared
- f. Hepatitis B (Serum Hepatitis): symptoms similar to Hepatitis A. but may be milder or much more severe Spread: contact with blood and sexual activity Period of Contagion: weeks prior to symptoms and through course of illness

Incubation Period: 45-160 days

Vaccine: available, not required for school attendance Exclusion from School: determined by severity of disease and treating physician



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g. Influenza: fever, chills, headache, fatigue Spread: direct contact droplet, contaminated articles Period of Contagion: 24 hours prior to symptoms and during peak of symptoms

Incubation Period: 1 -3 days

Vaccine: available, but not required for school

Exclusion from School: during acute phase, usually 5-7 days after

onset

h. Impetigo: Skin eruption progress through vesicular, pustular and encrusted stages Spread: direct contact Period of Contagion: until treated Exclusion from School: may return 24 hours after treatment has begun Vaccine: not available

i. Measles (Rubeola): cold symptoms, runny nose, watery and light sensitive eyes, fever followed by bluish white spots (Koplik) on inside of mouth, red blotchy rash and dry cough. Spread: direct contact and airborne by droplet spread. Period of Contagion: 1-2 days before symptoms (3-5 days before rash) to 4 days after rash appears. Incubation Period: 7-18 days from exposure to symptoms Exclusion from School: at least 7 days after onset of rash Vaccine: available and required for school admittance.

j.Meningitis - Bacterial (Meningococcal): sudden fever, intense headache, nausea,

vomiting, stiff neck and frequently a rash with pink macules or vesicles.

Spread: direct contact, airborne by droplet infection
Period of Contagion: until a negative culture from nasal
discharge (usually 24 hours after treatment with correct
medication). Incubation Period: varies from 2-10 days
Protection of Contacts: prophylactic administration of rifampin
twice daily for 2 days for intimate contacts (family, close
friends, not the whole class) Exclusion from School: determined
by severity of disease and treating physician Vaccine: available,



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but not recommended for young children and not required for school

k.Meningitis-Bacterial (Haemophilus): usually sudden lever, vomiting, lethargy,

stiff neck and back, bulging fontanelles in infants.

Spread: droplet infection

Period of Contagion: usually non-communicable 24-48 hours after

antibiotic treatment

Incubation Period: 2-4 days

Exclusion from School: determined by severity of disease and treating physician Vaccine: available and required for daycare centers and preschool; not given after five years of age

1.Mononucleosis. Infectious: fever, sore throat, enlarged lymph nodes

Spread: direct contact, saliva

Period of Contagion: prolonged; maybe a year/or a long term

carrier Incubation Period: 4-6 weeks

Exclusion from School: determined by severity of disease and treating physician Vaccine: non available

- m. Mumps (Infectious Parotitis): fever, swelling and tenderness of the salivary glands and parotid glands
 Spread: direct contact, droplet spread and airborne by droplet spread Period of Contagion: from 6 days before symptoms until 9 days after Incubation Period: 15-18 days
 Exclusion from School: 9 days after onset of parotid swelling
 Vaccine: available and required for school admittance
- n. Pediculosis (Head Lice): itching
 Spread: direct contact and contact with combs, brushes, hats
 Period Contagion: as long as lice or eggs remain alive Incubation
 Period: eggs hatch within a week Exclusion from School: head must
 be free of eggs Vaccine: not available
- o. Pin Worms (Enterobiasis): intense rectal itching, disturbed sleep, irritability.



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Spread: direct transfer of infective eggs by hand from anus to mouth or indirectly

by clothing, bedding and food

Period of Contagion: as long as eggs are being discharged - can

be two (2) weeks

Incubation Period: 4-6 weeks

Exclusion from School: determined by response to treatment and

treating physician

Vaccine: not available

- p. Rhinovirus (Common Cold): sneezing and watery discharge from nose and eyes. Throat irritated and temperature elevated. Coughing & chills may be present. Spread: direct contact, airborne droplets and soiled articles Period of Contagion: variable may be as long as 3 weeks Incubation Period: 2-5 days Exclusion from School: during acute phase Vaccine: not available
- q. Ring Worm of the Body (Tinea Corporis): itchy, red, scaly patches with a clear and non-hairy skin center Spread: direct contact, animals, and contaminated articles Period of Contagion: as long as fungii can be cultured from lesions Incubation Period: 4-10 days Exclusion from School: may return 24 hours after treatment begins Vaccine: not available
- r. Ring Worm of the Scalp (Tinea Capitus): scaling of scalp with hair loss
 Spread: direct contact, also contaminated combs, brushes, animals and clothing Period of Contagion: as long as fungii can be cultured from lesions Incubation Period: 10-14 days
 Exclusion from School: may return 24 hours after treatment begins Vaccine: not available

s.Scabies: severe itching, skin has raised lines, bumps, blisters Spread: close personal contact Period of Contagion: 2-6 weeks



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Exclusion from School: may return 24 hours after treatment begins Vaccine: not available; caused by a mite

t.Streptococcal infections (Group A): sudden onset of fever, sore throat, bright red

rash may appear on inner aspects of arms and thighs

Spread: close contact

Incubation Period: 2-5 days

Exclusion from School: may return 24 hours after treatment begins and is afebrile Vaccine: not available

- B. Exclusion from school
- 1. A pupil who exhibits any of the symptoms described in f\A2 or whose condition suggests the presence of a communicable disease as described in ^A3 WM be sent to the school nurse's office. The teacher will insure that the pupil is accompanied by an adult or a responsible pupil.
- 2. The teacher will communicate to the school nurse, directly or by written note, the reason for which the pupil is sent for medical assessment.
- 3. The school nurse will examine the pupil and. if the pupil's condition so indicates, recommend to the principal the pupil's exclusion from school for medical reasons.
- 4. In the event the school nurse is not available to be consulted about the pupil's condition, the principal may determine to exclude the pupil from school.
- 5. The parent, adult family member, or other responsible adult designated by the parent will be promptly notified by telephone of the pupils' exclusion and requested to come to school to take the pupil home. Until the adult arrives to remove the pupil, the pupil will be kept in an isokted location in the school and will be made as comfortable as possible. The pupil will be supervised at all times by a school staff member.



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C. Readmission to school

- 1. A pupil who has been excluded from school or retained at home by reason of having or being suspected of having a communicable disease shall not be readmitted to school until the pupil presents written evidence that he or she is free of communicable disease.
- 2. Evidence that a pupil is free of communicable disease will consist of the certification by a qualified physician who has personally examined the pupil.
- 3. In general, no pupil who has had a communicable disease will be readmitted to school until the number of calendar days indicated under each disease has elapsed from the time the pupil first showed symptoms of having the disease.
- 4. In general, pupils with other communicable diseases may be readmitted, with a physician's certification, when the symptoms of the disease have ceased.

D. Reports

- 1. The school nurse will file such reports as may be required by the New Jersey State Department of Health in the reporting of communicable diseases in schools.
- 2. The principal may, with the advice and consent of the Chief Medical Inspector and the Director of Nurses may inform the parents of pupils in his or her building that a pupil has contracted a communicable disease. The information given to parents will be provided by the Chief Medical Inspector.

Adopted: 28 July 1997 Revised: 31 July 2000



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