



Related Policies

First Aid

Purpose

To inform school communities of their role in helping health authorities and families manage the control of infectious diseases.

Policy

Parents of children enrolling in Kindergarten must present to the school an Immunisation Certificate. Children who have not been immunised may be required to remain at home during an outbreak of an infectious disease such as whooping cough or measles.

Health regulations state that students suffering certain infectious diseases must be excluded from school for a period of time.

Parents must notify the school if their child contracts an infectious disease. The school will contact the Health Department regarding notifiable cases. Parents of immune deficient students need to be informed of cases of chickenpox and measles.

Definitions

Exclusion: period of time for which a child is required not to attend school.

The following is a guide for some of the common diseases for which children have to be excluded from school:

Disease	Exclusion time
Chicken Pox	At least 5 days after the first spots appear or when blisters have all crusted.
Conjunctivitis	Until discharge from eyes has ceased.
Diarrhoea	Up until diarrhoea has stopped.
Diphtheria	Until medical officer certifies recovery.
German Measles (Rubella)	Until child has fully recovered, and for at least 4 days after rash appears.
Glandular Fever	Not necessary to keep children home but some children with glandular fever are too sick to attend school.
Hand, Foot and Mouth	Until blisters have dried.
Head lice	Until hair has been treated. Solutions available from pharmacies. Everyone living in the same house (as well as linen etc) should be treated at the same time as the affected person.
Ringworm and Scabies	Until day after fungal treatment has begun.

Infectious Diseases

Disease	Exclusion time
Hepatitis A	Until child has recovered (usually 7 days from the first signs of jaundice).
Hepatitis B and C	Not necessary to keep the child home.
HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus)	Not necessary to keep the child at home (unless she or he has a secondary infectious disease, such as TB).
Impetigo	Until appropriate treatment has commenced and visible sores are covered.
Influenza	For 5 days after the appearance of the first symptoms.
Measles	For at least 4 days after the appearance of rash.
Meningitis	Until well.
Meningococcal	Until well.
Mumps	Until child has fully recovered and for 9 days after the appearance of swelling.
Scarlet Fever	At least 24 hours after treatment has begun.
Streptococcal Infection	Until day after treatment has commenced and student feels well.
TB (Tuberculosis)	Until student has certified clearance by medical practitioner.
Whooping Cough	Child should be kept home for 5 days from the start of antibiotic treatment; otherwise, keep home for 2 weeks from when "whoop" starts

Procedures

1. Schools are to ensure the school community is fully informed of the procedures to be followed relating to infectious diseases.
2. Parents are to present Immunisation Certificates to the school prior to the child's enrolment.
3. Schools to follow procedure set down in First Aid policy in regards to Blood Born Viruses (BBV).

References

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/public-health/cdscu/facts/pdf/Someinfectiousdiseasesofchildren2001.pdf>

Forms

Nil

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