

Impetigo

School Name
School Nurse Name
Phone Number
Date

Dear Parent or Guardian,

This letter is to inform you that there has been a case of impetigo identified at the school. For confidentiality purposes, no further information can be provided regarding the case but you are receiving this letter because your child may have been exposed and it's important to monitor them closely for any symptoms. Impetigo is typically a very mild infection but is highly contagious and requires appropriate treatment.

What is impetigo? Impetigo is a bacterial skin infection that usually develops after a skin injury causes a break in the skin, such as a cut, scrape, or bug bite. It can also occur following skin irritation caused by a runny nose.

What are the symptoms? The first signs of impetigo include red, itchy sores that can leak clear fluid or pus. Eventually the sores crust over, forming yellow scabs. Symptoms most typically appear 10 days after an exposure.

How is it treated? If you suspect your child may have impetigo, contact their pediatrician for an appropriate treatment plan, in addition to a prescription for antibiotics. In general, infected areas should be cleaned with soap and water and covered loosely until they are healed. Warm soaks to soften and loosen the crusts can help the child feel more comfortable and prevent picking at the crusts. Daily bathing and frequent changes of clothing and bedding are also important.

What are the risks? Serious complications are rare but anyone with suspected or confirmed impetigo should be under the care of a licensed healthcare provider.

How does it spread? Impetigo is spread by direct contact with infected sores or fluid from sores.

How long should children with Impetigo stay away from school? Children with impetigo can return to school 24 hours after treatment with an antibiotic and when the blisters and drainage can be contained and maintained in a clean, dry bandage.

What should you do now? Monitor your child closely for symptoms and contact your pediatrician and school nurse if you suspect an infection. To help prevent spread, encourage good hand washing habits, practice good wound care, and teach appropriate sneeze and cough hygiene to your child.

Thank you for your careful attention to the information in this notice and for your diligence in helping to keep our school community as safe and healthy as possible. Please don't hesitate to reach out to the school nurse with any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

School Nurse Name