

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOLS AND CHILD CARE FACILITIES – QUICK REFERENCE CHART

DISEASE	CAUSE/SYMPTOMS	TRANSMISSION	INCUBATION	PERIOD OF COMMUNICABILITY	EXCLUSION	REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
Chickenpox (Varicella)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cause: Virus. · Fever, blister-like rash in successive crops. “Spots” appear first on body, face, and scalp, then arms and legs. · Scabs appear after the blister stage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Person-to-person by direct contact with virus through droplet or airborne spread of blister fluid or respiratory secretions. · Indirectly through freshly contaminated objects and surfaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 10 to 21 days; commonly 14 to 16 days. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Usually 1 to 2 days before onset of rash, until all blisters are crusted (usually about 5 days after the onset of rash). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · No exclusion, children can return with rash if fever-free and able to participate in regular programs. Contact with immunocompromised individuals, pregnant persons, particularly those in the third trimester, or newborns should be avoided. Children should be seen by a physician as soon as possible if: 1) fever (>38.3°C) lasts for more than 3 days or recurs, 2) redness, swelling, and severe pain develop around a blister. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Report number of cases and age of children on a weekly basis by mail or fax to 613-933-7930. · Staff, parents, and guardians should be notified of chickenpox in a classroom, particularly immunocompromised children and pregnant persons.
Conjunctivitis-Bacterial (Pink Eye)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cause: Bacteria. · Purulent conjunctivitis: Pink or red conjunctiva (the white of the eye) with white or yellow discharge (pus). · Sometimes fever. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Person-to-person with direct or indirect contact with eye secretions. · Healthy eye coming in contact with secretions from affected eye. · Frequent handwashing is important for control of spread. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 24 to 72 hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · For duration of infection or until 24 hours of effective antibiotic treatment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · For bacterial or possible bacterial, exclude until treated with antibiotic drops or ointment for 24 hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not required. · For more information, visit caringforkids.cps.ca.
Conjunctivitis-Viral (Pink Eye)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cause: Virus. · Non-purulent conjunctivitis: Pink conjunctiva with a clear, watery eye discharge and no fever, eye pain or eyelid redness. · May be accompanied by a cold. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Person-to-person by direct or indirect contact with eye secretions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 12 hours to 12 days. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · For duration of infection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not required, if no eye discharge. · To consider if strict hand hygiene cannot be ensured. Otherwise, child can return upon approval by healthcare provider. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not required. · For more information, visit caringforkids.cps.ca.
Coxsackie Virus (Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cause: Virus. · Acute self-limited viral infection. · Sudden onset of fever, sore throat. · Rash occurs commonly on the palms of the hands, the fingers, inside the mouth and on the soles of the feet. · Acute illness usually occurs in children, particularly in the summer months. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Person-to-person by direct contact with fluid from sores, respiratory secretions, and fecal-oral route. · Although most common in young children, asymptomatic adults can also spread infection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Usually 3 to 5 days. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Most infectious during the first week of illness while experiencing symptoms. · Transmission via stools and throat secretions may persist for several weeks. · Hand hygiene is important. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not required. · For more information, visit caringforkids.cps.ca.



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Fifth Disease (Parvovirus B19)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cause: Virus. · Illness is mild, usually with no fever. · Initial “slapped cheek” rash. · Followed by lacelike rash (1 to 4 days later, on the arms and body; can fade but may recur and last for 1 to 3 weeks). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Person-to-person by respiratory secretions. · Mother to fetus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 4 to 14 days but can be as long as 21 days. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Greatest before onset of rash, and probably not communicable after onset of rash. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not required since no longer infectious after rash appears. However, children who are febrile should be excluded until fever-free and able to participate in regular programs. · Pregnant women, children with sickle cell and other forms of chronic anemia should be advised to consult their physician. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not required. · For more information, visit caringforkids.cps.ca.
Impetigo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cause: Bacteria. · Skin infection caused by streptococcus / staphylococcus bacteria. · Usually appears on face or exposed skin as a rash with cluster of red bumps/blisters. · May ooze or be crusted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Person-to-person by direct or indirect contact with fluid from sores. · Very infectious and should be treated at once. · Will spread quickly, particularly if scratched. · Hand hygiene is important in preventing transmission. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Variable. · Average 4 to 10 days. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · From onset of rash until 24 hours of treatment with oral or topical antibiotic. · Typically, until blisters have crusted over. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Until sores are completely scabbed over or for at least 24 hours following initiation of treatment. · Upon return, any draining or open blisters must be covered with a clean dry bandage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not required. · For more information, visit caringforkids.cps.ca.
Influenza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cause: Influenza A or B virus. · Infection of the airways, leading to fever, headache, muscle soreness, runny nose, sore throat, and cough. · Children may also have nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Person-to-person by direct contact with respiratory secretions or indirect contact with contaminated surfaces or objects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 1 to 3 days. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 24 hours before onset of symptoms. · Up to 7 days in young children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Exclude for 5 days after the onset of symptoms OR until fever-free and feeling better, whichever is shorter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Report within 1 working day to 613-933-1375 or 1 800 267-7120. · Report outbreaks immediately.
Pinworms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cause: Worms. · Itching around the anal area. · Irritability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Pinworm eggs transmitted to others by fecal-oral route. · Contaminated bedding, food, or clothing. · Hand hygiene is very important. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 4 to 8 weeks or longer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · During incubation period, until treatment is initiated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not required. · For more information, visit caringforkids.cps.ca.
Ringworm (Tinea)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cause: Fungus. · Flat, spreading, ring-shaped, discoloured patches on the skin. · May be dry and scaly or moist and crusted. · Itchiness is common. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Person-to-person by direct skin-to-skin contact. · Indirect spread by contaminated hands, objects, and surfaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Usually 10 to 14 days. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · For duration of illness or until treatment is initiated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Until treatment has been initiated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not required. · For more information, visit caringforkids.cps.ca.

If you require this information in an alternate format, please call 1-800-267-7120 and press 0.

