

Time Out

Keeping your child and other kids healthy!



- Information for a number of infectious conditions that may require¹ exclusion of children from school, education and care services.
- Additional public health recommendations that apply to children and adults.
- To assist medical practitioners, schools, preschools and childcare facilities to meet the public health requirements¹ and recommendations.

*Refers to contagious conditions as per the Public Health Regulation 2018.

1. Observing the exclusion period meets the intent of the Public Health Act 2005 for a person to be non-infectious. See schedule 4 of the Public Health Regulation 2018 for a complete list of contagious conditions and their exclusion criteria.

2. Doctors should notify the local Public Health Unit as soon as possible if children or staff are diagnosed with these conditions. Refer to page 2 for Public Health Unit contact details.

Condition	Person with the infection	Those in contact with the infected person (The definition of 'contact' will vary between diseases)
*Chickenpox (varicella)	EXCLUDE until all blisters have dried, and at least 5 days after the onset of symptoms. ¹	EXCLUSION MAY APPLY EXCLUDE non-immune pregnant women and any child with immune deficiency or receiving chemotherapy. Advise to seek urgent medical assessment. <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i> Also see Shingles information below.
Cold sores (herpes simplex)	NOT EXCLUDED if the person can maintain hygiene practices to minimise the risk of transmission. Young children unable to comply with good hygiene practices should be excluded while sores are weeping. Sores should be covered with a dressing where possible.	NOT EXCLUDED
Conjunctivitis	EXCLUDE until discharge from eyes has ceased unless a doctor has diagnosed non-infectious conjunctivitis.	NOT EXCLUDED
*COVID-19	EXCLUDE until symptoms have resolved, normally 5–7 days.	NOT EXCLUDED
Cytomegalovirus (CMV)	NOT EXCLUDED pregnant women should consult with their doctor.	NOT EXCLUDED pregnant women should consult with their doctor.
Diarrhoea and/or Vomiting including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • amoebiasis • campylobacter • cryptosporidium • giardia • rotavirus • salmonella • *gastroenteritis but excluding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *norovirus • shigellosis • toxin-producing forms of E.coli (STEC) 	Exclusion periods may vary depending on the cause. EXCLUDE a single case until the person, has no symptoms ¹ (includes vomiting if applicable), is feeling well and they have not had any loose bowel motions for at least 24 hours or if the person has confirmed norovirus exclude for at least 48 hours. ¹ EXCLUDE all persons who prepare or serve food until they have not had any diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours. NOTE: If there are 2 or more cases with diarrhoea and/or vomiting in the same location, which may indicate a potential outbreak OR a single case in a food handler, notify your Public Health Unit. Diarrhoea: 3 or more loose stools or bowel movements in a 24 hour period that are different from normal and/or escapes a child's nappy. <i>See information below if norovirus is confirmed or considered likely as the cause of diarrhoea and vomiting.</i>	NOT EXCLUDED
See advice for these specific conditions below		
*Enterovirus 71 (EV71 neurological disease)	EXCLUDE until written medical clearance is received confirming the virus is no longer present in the person's bowel motions. ¹	NOT EXCLUDED
Fungal infections of the skin and nails (ringworm/tinea)	EXCLUDE until the day after antifungal treatment has commenced. (No exclusion for thrush).	NOT EXCLUDED
Glandular fever (mononucleosis, Epstein-Barr virus)	NOT EXCLUDED	NOT EXCLUDED
*German measles (rubella)²	EXCLUDE for 4 days after the onset of rash ¹ or until fully recovered, whichever is longer. Pregnant women should consult with their doctor.	NOT EXCLUDED pregnant women should consult with their doctor.
*Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)	EXCLUDE until the doctor confirms the person is not infectious and has completed 4 days of appropriate antibiotic treatment. ¹ <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	EXCLUSION MAY APPLY <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>
Hand, foot and mouth disease	EXCLUDE until all blisters have dried.	NOT EXCLUDED
Head lice	Exclusion is not necessary if effective treatment is commenced before next attendance day (i.e. the child does not need to be sent home immediately if head lice are detected).	NOT EXCLUDED
*Hepatitis A²	EXCLUDE until at least 7 days after the onset of jaundice; ¹ OR for 2 weeks after onset of first symptoms, including dark urine if there is no jaundice. If a person is asymptomatic <i>contact your Public Health Unit for Specialist advice.</i>	NOT EXCLUDED <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice about vaccination or treatment for children and staff in the same room or group, children transferring to another centre and new enrolments.</i>

Condition	Person with the infection	Those in contact with the infected person ²
Hepatitis B and C	NOT EXCLUDED cover open wounds with waterproof dressing.	NOT EXCLUDED
Hepatitis E	EXCLUDE until at least 2 weeks after the onset of jaundice.	NOT EXCLUDED
Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV/AIDS)	NOT EXCLUDED cover open wounds with waterproof dressing.	NOT EXCLUDED
Influenza and influenza-like illness	EXCLUDE until symptoms have resolved, normally 5–7 days.	NOT EXCLUDED
*Measles ²	EXCLUDE until the doctor confirms the person is not infectious but not earlier than 4 days after the onset of the rash. ¹ <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	EXCLUSION MAY APPLY NOT EXCLUDED vaccinated or immune contacts. EXCLUDE immuno-compromised contacts (including those receiving chemotherapy) until 14 days after the appearance of the rash in the last case. EXCLUDE non-or incompletely vaccinated contacts, without evidence of immunity. <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>
Meningitis (bacterial)	EXCLUDE until well and has received appropriate antibiotics.	NOT EXCLUDED
Meningitis (viral)	EXCLUDE until well.	NOT EXCLUDED
*Meningococcal infection ²	EXCLUDE until the treating doctor confirms the child is not infectious and at least 24 hours of appropriate antibiotics have been completed. ¹ <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	NOT EXCLUDED <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice about antibiotics and/or vaccination for close contacts.</i>
Molluscum contagiosum	NOT EXCLUDED	NOT EXCLUDED
Mumps	EXCLUDE for 5 days after onset of swelling. Pregnant women should consult with their doctor.	NOT EXCLUDED pregnant women should consult with their doctor.
*Norovirus	EXCLUDE until no symptoms and no loose bowel motions for 48 hours. ¹	NOT EXCLUDED
Roseola, sixth disease	NOT EXCLUDED	NOT EXCLUDED
Scabies	EXCLUDE until the day after treatment has commenced.	NOT EXCLUDED
School sores (impetigo)	EXCLUDE until 24 hours of appropriate antibiotics have been completed. Cover sores on exposed areas with a waterproof dressing until sores are dry, and encourage handwashing.	NOT EXCLUDED
Shiga toxin-producing E.coli (STEC)	EXCLUDE until diarrhoea has stopped and 2 samples have tested negative. <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	EXCLUSION MAY APPLY <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>
Slapped cheek syndrome, fifth disease (parvovirus B19, erythema infectiosum)	NOT EXCLUDED pregnant women should consult with their doctor. Note: Children are contagious until 24 hours after the fever resolves. Rashes generally occur after the infectious period has passed.	NOT EXCLUDED pregnant women should consult with their doctor.
Shigellosis	EXCLUDE until there has been no diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours. <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	EXCLUSION MAY APPLY <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>
Shingles (herpes zoster)	EXCLUDE all children until blisters have dried and crusted. EXCLUDE adults if blisters are unable to be covered. NOT EXCLUDED in adults if blisters can be covered with a waterproof dressing until they have dried.	EXCLUSION MAY APPLY <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice, including advice for pregnant women and any person who is immuno-compromised (including receiving chemotherapy).</i>
Streptococcal sore throat (including scarlet fever)	EXCLUDE until 24 hours of appropriate antibiotics have been completed.	NOT EXCLUDED
*Tuberculosis (TB) ²	EXCLUDE until written medical clearance is received from the relevant Tuberculosis Control Unit.	NOT EXCLUDED
*Typhoid ² and paratyphoid fever ²	EXCLUDE until appropriate antibiotics have been completed. ¹ Stool sample clearance will be required, <i>contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	EXCLUSION MAY APPLY <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>
*Whooping cough (pertussis) ²	EXCLUDE until 5 days after starting appropriate antibiotics or for 21 days from onset of cough AND confirmed that they are not infectious. ¹ <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	EXCLUSION MAY APPLY for contacts of an infected person. <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice regarding exclusion of non-or incompletely vaccinated contacts.</i>
Worms	EXCLUDE until diarrhoea has stopped for 24 hours and treatment has occurred.	NOT EXCLUDED

This is an assistive tool, it is not intended to replace clinical assessment, management or judgment.

If you have any medical concerns, contact your healthcare provider or 13 HEALTH (13432584)

For further advice on the information within this poster, contact your nearest Public Health Unit via 13Health or at www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/contact-us/contact-public-health-units

Further information on recommendations:

- Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA) guidelines <https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdnasongs.htm>
- National Health and Medical Research Council publication: infectious diseases in early childhood and education and care services, 5th edition www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines-publications/ch55
- Queensland Department of health Communicable Disease Control Guidance <http://disease-control.health.qld.gov.au>



Use this QR Code to access a digital copy of this poster or visit www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/schools/prevention

