

Guidelines for Reportable Diseases in Schools and Child Care Facilities (CCF)

These guidelines are intended to provide principals, teachers, and directors of CCF and health professionals with guidance on communicable disease control.

Any child who is too ill to participate fully in regular activities should be cared for at home.



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**RENFREW COUNTY AND DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT
HEALTH PROMOTION AND CLINICAL SERVICES DIVISION - COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROGRAM
(613) 735-8653**

Adapted from material produced by City of Ottawa Public Health and Long Term Care Branch Communicable Disease Program

Disease	Cause/Symptoms	Transmission	Incubation	Period of Communicability	Exclusion	Reporting of Individual Cases
Amebiasis	Parasite. Abdominal distention and cramps, diarrhea or constipation, and rarely fever or chills. May be symptom free.	Fecal-oral route. Food and water contaminated by infected food handler or sewage.	Few days to several months, commonly 2 to 4 weeks.	Until treated.	Exclude until stools are formed and anti-parasite treatment is complete; except for child care facility children who may return when stools are formed.	Report within one working day to 735-8654 .
Bite (Animal)	There is risk of rabies from the bites of bats, cats, dogs, ferrets, groundhogs, muskrats, racoons, skunks and other wild mammals. Bites of gerbils, hamsters, mice, moles, rabbits and squirrels do not have to be reported unless the animal's behaviour was very abnormal. Feeding squirrels is a form of provocation.	Animal saliva introduced by a bite or scratch.	Depends on the cause.	Depends on the cause.	No exclusion.	Report immediately to 735-8654 or (735-9926 after hours) in order to begin rabies immunization if needed and/or quarantine the biting animal if available .
Campylobacter	Bacteria. Diarrhea, abdominal pain, fever, nausea and vomiting. Stools may contain blood.	Fecal-oral route. Undercooked meat (especially poultry), unpasteurized milk, contaminated water. After petting infected dogs and cats whose coats contain fecal matter.	1 to 10 days.	Up to several weeks after beginning of symptoms, or until treated.	Exclude or care for in a separate protected area until stools are formed. Erythromycin treatment may reduce the risk of transmission. Stool culture may be requested by Public Health.	Report within one working day to 735-8654 .

Disease	Cause/Symptoms	Transmission	Incubation	Period of Communicability	Exclusion	Reporting of Individual Cases
Chickenpox (Varicella)	Virus. Fever. Blister-like rash occurs in successive crops. Scabs form after the blister stage. "Spots" usually appear first on the body, face and scalp, and then later spread to the arms and legs.	Person-to-person by: 1) respiratory secretions, or 2) direct skin contact with fluid from blisters or objects and surfaces contaminated by the fluid from the blisters.	11 to 20 days; commonly 13 to 17 days.	1-2 days before to 5 days after onset of rash. Low infectiousness after 1 or 2 days of rash.	Exclude until well enough to participate in regular activities. Children can return with "crusted" rash. Children who are immunosuppressed or on cancer treatment may need to be excluded (consult with Public Health at 735-8653). Child 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) if redness, swelling, and severe pain develop around a lesion, or 3) if child is not his or herself.	Report number of cases and ages by mail or fax to 735-8653 on a weekly basis.

Disease	Cause/Symptoms	Transmission	Incubation	Period of Communicability	Exclusion	Reporting of Individual Cases
Escherichia coli (O157:H7)	Bacteria. Severe abdominal cramps; watery, possibly bloody diarrhea; fever; nausea and vomiting.	Fecal-oral route. Undercooked meat (especially hamburger) and poultry. Salami. Raw vegetables (e.g. sprouts) and fruits. Salad dressing. Unpasteurized milk and apple juice/cider. Contaminated water	1 to 10 days, usually 3-4 days.	3 weeks in a third of children. 1 week or less in adults.	Exclude until stools are formed. Child care facilities: Exclude until 2 negative stool cultures, at least 24 hours apart with the first one at least 48 hours after the last dose of antibiotic if taken. Note: Antibiotics are not recommended for this infection.	Report immediately to 735-8654 or (735-9926 after hours).
Gastroenteritis: Institutional Outbreaks (for a school: 3 cases or more in the same class within 48 hours of each other, for a CCF: 2 cases or more in the same group within 48 hours of each other).	Bacteria, viruses or parasites. Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, headache, fever.	Depends on cause. Usually fecal-oral route or through food and water contaminated with bacteria, virus or parasites.	Depends on cause.	Depends on cause.	Depends on cause, number of cases and source of infection. All outbreaks must be discussed with Public Health.	Report immediately to 735-8654 or (735-9926 after hours).

Disease	Cause/Symptoms	Transmission	Incubation	Period of Communicability	Exclusion	Reporting of Individual Cases
Gastroenteritis (single case)	<p>Bacteria, viruses or parasites.</p> <p>See Amebiasis, Campylobacter, Escherichia coli, Giardiasis, Norwalk virus, Salmonella, Shigella, or Yersinia.</p> <p>Vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, headache, fever.</p>	<p>Depends on cause.</p> <p>Usually fecal-oral route or through food and water contaminated with bacteria, viruses or parasites</p>	Depends on cause.	Depends on cause.	<p>Exclude until stools are formed. If recurrence within 48 hours, recommend to parent/guardian that child be seen by a physician to see if a stool culture is needed.</p> <p>Exclude if vomiting 2 or more times in the previous 24 hours, unless the vomiting is determined to be caused by a non - communicable condition and the child is not in danger of dehydration.</p>	<p>Not needed unless part of an outbreak (see above).</p> <p>For information call 735-8654</p>

Disease	Cause/Symptoms	Transmission	Incubation	Period of Communicability	Exclusion	Reporting of Individual Cases
Gastroenteritis (single case)	Bacteria, viruses or parasites. See Amebiasis, Campylobacter, Escherichia coli, Giardiasis, Norwalk virus, Salmonella, Shigella, or Yersinia. Vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, headache, fever.	Depends on cause. Usually fecal-oral route or through food and water contaminated with bacteria, viruses or parasites	Depends on cause.	Depends on cause.	Exclude until stools are formed. If recurrence within 48 hours, recommend to parent/guardian that child be seen by a physician to see if a stool culture is needed. Exclude if vomiting 2 or more times in the previous 24 hours, unless the vomiting is determined to be caused by a non-communicable condition and the child is not in danger of dehydration.	Not needed unless part of an outbreak (see above). For information call 735-8654
Giardiasis (Beaver Fever)	Parasite. Diarrhea, abdominal cramps, bloating, weight loss. May be symptom free.	Fecal-oral route. Water and food contaminated by infected food handler or sewage. Lake and river water.	3 to 25 days or longer, usually 7 to 10 days.	Entire period of infection, often months, or until treated.	Exclude until stools are formed.	Report within one working day to 735-8654 .
Hepatitis A	Virus. Fever, tiredness, nausea, jaundice (yellowing of skin), abdominal discomfort, dark urine, clay coloured stools. May be symptom free.	Fecal-oral route. Food (e.g. shellfish and raw produce) and water contaminated by infected food handler or sewage.	15 to 50 days, average 28-30 days.	1-2 weeks prior to symptoms to 1 week after the onset of symptoms.	Exclude for 7 days after onset of jaundice or illness.	Report immediately to 735-8654 or (735-9926 after hours).

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Hepatitis B	Virus. Same symptoms as hepatitis A.	Through contact with blood and bloody fluids, semen, vaginal fluid and saliva with non-intact skin or mucous membrane (eyes, nose and mouth). For example: unprotected sexual intercourse, sharing of needles in injection drug use, bites that break the skin.	45 to 180 days, average 2-4 months.	From weeks before onset of symptoms to months or years after end of symptoms. Some become carriers and remain contagious for life.	Not required. Child care facilities: Special circumstances may apply depending on child's behaviour. All cases are to be discussed with Public Health at 735-8653.	Report to 735-8653 within one working day.
Hepatitis C	Virus. Same symptoms as hepatitis A and B.	Through contact with blood, needle sharing by injection drug users, unsterile tattooing or body piercing, sharing contaminated razors or toothbrushes, receiving blood products prior to 1990. There is no evidence of transmission through sharing of eating and drinking utensils or through blood touching intact skin.	2 weeks - 6 months, most common 6-9 weeks.	From one or more weeks before onset of first symptoms to the end of symptoms; persists indefinitely in carriers (90% of those infected).	Not required. Childcare facilities: Special circumstances may apply depending on child's behaviour. All cases are to be discussed with Public Health at 735-8653.	Report to 735-8653 within one working day.

Disease	Cause/Symptoms	Transmission	Incubation	Period of Communicability	Exclusion	Reporting of Individual Cases
Influenza	Infection of the airways caused by the influenza A or B virus leading to fever, headache, muscle soreness, runny nose, sore throat, and cough.	Person to person by respiratory secretions or direct contact with secretions.	1-3 days.	From onset of symptoms up to 7 days in young children.	Not required.	Not required unless part of an outbreak. If ≥ 10 or 15% of children ill, report within one working day to 735-8653 .
Measles (Rubeola)	Virus. Fever ($\geq 38.3^{\circ}\text{C}$), cough, pink eyes sensitive to light, runny nose (symptoms of a cold), dusky-red blotchy rash on 3rd to 4th day after onset of symptoms spreading downwards from face, and sometimes white spots in mouth.	Person-to-person by respiratory secretions or direct contact with secretions. Very contagious.	10 days (range of 7 -18) for fever and 14 for rash.	2 days before the fever and cough until 4 days after beginning of rash.	Exclude until 4 days after beginning of rash. Exclude exposed susceptible persons for 18 days after last contact with an infectious case.	Report immediately to 735-8653 or (735-9926 after hours).
Meningitis (any kind)	Bacteria or virus. Young children may show a cluster of symptoms such as irritability, poor feeding, vomiting, fever and excessive high-pitched crying. Older children and adults may experience severe persistent headache, vomiting and neck rigidity.	Varies depending on cause of meningitis. Often is person-to-person by respiratory secretions.	Varies depending on cause of meningitis.	Varies depending on cause of meningitis.	All cases must be discussed with Public Health.	Report immediately to 735-8653 or (735-9926 after hours).

Disease	Cause/Symptoms	Transmission	Incubation	Period of Communicability	Exclusion	Reporting of Individual Cases
Mumps	<p>Virus.</p> <p>Fever, swelling and tenderness of salivary glands slightly above the angle of the jaw.</p>	<p>Person-to-person by respiratory secretions or contact with saliva.</p>	<p>12 to 25 days; usually 16-18 days.</p>	<p>7 days before to 9 days after swelling; most contagious 48 hours before until 5 days after onset of illness.</p>	<p>Exclude for 9 days from the onset of swelling, unless the illness is very mild.</p> <p>Exclude exposed, susceptible persons for 25 days after last contact with an infectious case.</p>	<p>Report immediately to 735-8653 or (735-9926 after hours).</p>
Norwalk-like virus	<p>Virus.</p> <p>Acute onset of nausea, vomiting (especially in children), abdominal cramps and/or diarrhea (especially in adults).</p> <p>May have headache, fever, chills and muscle pain.</p>	<p>Fecal-oral route; contact with vomitus; contaminated water, ice or food (clams, oysters; salad ingredients, fruit and other uncooked foods contaminated by sick food handler)</p>	<p>4 -77 hours (often 24 -48 hours)</p>	<p>48 -72 hours after last episode of vomiting or diarrhea</p>	<p>Exclude until 72 hours after last episode of vomiting or diarrhea</p>	<p>Report immediately to 735-8654 or (735-9926 after hours).</p>
<p>Outbreaks (any kind, except for gastroenteritis or diarrhea)</p>	<p>15% or more people sick with similar symptoms or absent at the same time.</p> <p><u>For gastroenteritis or diarrhea</u>, need 2-3 or more cases in the same class (see Gastroenteritis: Institutional Outbreak). <u>For measles, mumps, parvovirus, pertussis, and rubella</u>, see specific reporting criteria.</p>	<p>Varies.</p>	<p>Varies.</p>	<p>Varies.</p>	<p>Varies.</p>	<p>Report immediately to 735-8653 or (735-9926 after hours).</p>

Disease	Cause/Symptoms	Transmission	Incubation	Period of Communicability	Exclusion	Reporting of Individual Cases
<p>Pertussis (Whooping cough)</p>	<p>Bacteria. Repeated bouts of violent coughs, which may end with a crowing or high-pitched whoop and vomiting. May last 6 - 10 weeks. Occurs mainly in pre-school children but can occur in adolescents and adults.</p>	<p>Person-to-person by respiratory secretions.</p>	<p>5-21 days, usually 7-10 days</p>	<p>From the onset of the cough until: 1) 3 weeks after onset of paroxysms or whooping; or 2) 5 days after starting proper antibiotic treatment.</p>	<p>Exclude until 5 days after beginning of antibiotic treatment, or, until 3 weeks have passed since onset of illness.</p>	<p>Report within one working day to 735-8653. If an outbreak situation (2 or more cases) call immediately to 735-8653, (735-9926 after hours).</p>
<p>Rubella (German measles)</p>	<p>Virus. Mild fever, runny nose, enlarged tender neck nodes, fine pale red rash spreading from behind the ears to the face, then downward. May have tender joints. Often difficult to diagnose.</p>	<p>Person-to-person by respiratory secretions. Very contagious.</p>	<p>From 14 to 23 days, usually 16-18 days.</p>	<p>For about 1 week before until 7 days after the onset of the rash.</p>	<p>Exclude for 7 days after onset of the rash. Exclude exposed, susceptible persons for 23 days after contact with an infectious case.</p>	<p>Report immediately to 735-8653 or (735-9926 after hours).</p>

Disease	Cause/Symptoms	Transmission	Incubation	Period of Communicability	Exclusion	Reporting of Individual Cases
Salmonella	<p>Bacteria.</p> <p>Diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, headache, abdominal pain, fever, lack of appetite. May be symptom free.</p>	<p>Fecal-oral route.</p> <p>Undercooked meat (especially poultry).</p> <p>Raw or undercooked eggs (cook until yolks and whites are firm).</p> <p>Raw sprouts.</p> <p>Vegetables and fruit, (e.g. melons), contaminated with animal feces.</p> <p>Unpasteurized milk, cheese, juice and cider.</p> <p>Contaminated water.</p> <p>Contact with infected pet turtles and chicks.</p> <p>Street vendors in developing countries for Salmonella typhi.</p>	6 to 72 hours, usually 12-36 hours.	Several weeks to months after beginning of symptoms.	<p>Exclude until stools are formed and, if under 5 years old, 1 negative stool culture.</p> <p>For Salmonella typhi or paratyphi, exclusion required until 3 negative stool cultures.</p>	Report within one working day to 735-8654 .
Shigella	<p>Bacteria.</p> <p>Watery diarrhea, which may contain blood, fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal cramps. May be symptom free.</p>	<p>Fecal-oral route.</p> <p>Food and water contaminated by infected food handler, sewage, raw vegetables, egg salads.</p>	1 to 6 days; usually 1-3 days.	As long as present in the stool: 1 week if treated, up to 4 weeks if not.	<p>Schools: Exclude until stools are formed.</p> <p>Child care facilities: Exclude until diarrhea is gone and two cultures at least 24 hours apart are negative. The child must not have been on antibiotics for at least 48 hours before taking the first sample.</p>	Report within one working day to 735-8654 .

Disease	Cause/Symptoms	Transmission	Incubation	Period of Communicability	Exclusion	Reporting of Individual Cases
<p>Streptococcal Infection</p> <p>(Strep Throat)</p> <p>(Scarlet Fever)</p>	<p>Bacteria.</p> <p>Strep Throat: Very sore and red throat, fever.</p> <p>Scarlet Fever: High fever, vomiting, "sandpaper" skin rash, "strawberry tongue", red cheeks and whiteness around mouth. During convalescence, skin on hands and feet may peel.</p>	<p>Person-to-person by respiratory secretions.</p>	<p>1 to 5 days.</p>	<p>From onset of symptoms until 24 hours after beginning of treatment.</p> <p>Up to 10-21 days if untreated.</p>	<p>Exclude until 24 hours after treatment begun. Child must be well enough to participate in activities before returning.</p>	<p>Reporting not required. For information call 735-8666</p> <p>If in an outbreak situation (≥15% of children in class affected) report immediately to 735-8653 or (735-9926 after hours).</p>
<p>Streptococcal Infection</p> <p>(Invasive Group A Strep)</p>	<p>Necrotizing fasciitis: Fever, localised redness, swelling, blister formation, and intense pain. Redness spreads very quickly (up to 3 cm/hour). Can arise from infected chickenpox lesions.</p> <p>Toxic Shock Syndrome: Sudden onset of high fever, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, muscle pains, and shock. Can be fatal</p>	<p>Person-to-person by respiratory secretions, through direct and indirect contact.</p>	<p>Up to 10 days.</p>	<p>Unknown.</p>	<p>Same as above. Child should be in hospital.</p>	<p>Report immediately to 735-8653 or (735-9926 after hours).</p>

Disease	Cause/Symptoms	Transmission	Incubation	Period of Communicability	Exclusion	Reporting of Individual Cases
Tuberculosis	<p><u>Mycobacterium</u></p> <p><u>In the lungs or airways (pharynx, larynx):</u> Cough producing sputum, lasting over 2 weeks. Loss of weight, fever, night sweats, tiredness.</p> <p><u>Outside of the lungs or airways:</u> It varies depending on where the disease is located, for e.g., lymph nodes, bones, kidneys, and meninges.</p>	<p><u>In the lungs or airways:</u> Person-to-person by respiratory secretions.</p> <p><u>Outside of the lungs or airways:</u> If tuberculosis is anywhere else in the body, it is not contagious.</p>	<p>2 to 12 weeks for the Mantoux skin test to show exposure to the tuberculosis.</p> <p>Several weeks to years for someone to show symptoms of illness.</p> <p>In children 18 years of age and under, the incubation period tends to be shortest and the complications greatest.</p>	<p>Tuberculosis can be contagious only if it is in the lungs or airways.</p> <p>Laboratory tests are needed to identify if or how contagious someone is.</p>	<p>Each case to be discussed with Public Health.</p>	<p>Report within one working day to 735-8653.</p>
Yersinia	<p>Bacteria.</p> <p>Watery diarrhea, fever, headache.</p>	<p>Undercooked pork and beef.</p> <p>Food and water contaminated by infected food handler or sewage.</p> <p>Unpasteurized milk, contaminated water.</p> <p>Contact with infected pets, e.g.: dogs, cats, rodents, and birds.</p>	<p>3 to 7 days, usually under 10 days.</p>	<p>For 2 to 3 months or until treated with antibiotics.</p>	<p>Exclude until stools are formed.</p>	<p>Report within one working day to 735-8654.</p>