

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

---

### **RATIONALE:**

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) is committed to ensuring the provision of plans, programs, and/or services that will enable students with health or medical needs to safely attend and participate in school.

This procedure sets out the approach schools will take to report and manage communicable diseases in the school and meet the obligations of the [Health Protection and Promotion Act \(HPPA\)](#). HWDSB recognizes its responsibility to minimize risks associated with communicable diseases. Our approach will be done in a manner that respects, to the degree possible in the circumstances, the student's right to privacy, dignity, and cultural sensitivity.

HWDSB aims to maintain a healthy and safe working and learning environment for all staff and students by providing information and direction to administrators on the communication and reporting requirements of communicable diseases, applying Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) in schools, and working with Hamilton Public Health Services (HPS) and other partners.

### **TERMINOLOGY:**

Communicable Disease: means a disease identified as a communicable disease in Ontario Regulation 135/18.

Routine Practices: IPAC practices used and incorporated by all during their daily tasks in order to prevent and control transmission of diseases from all potential sources (e.g., hand hygiene, environmental cleaning, safe work practices, personal protective equipment, respiratory etiquette, etc.).

Additional Precautions: Precautions (i.e., Contact Precautions, Droplet Precautions and Airborne Precautions) that are necessary in addition to Routine Practices for certain pathogens or clinical presentations. These precautions are based on the method of transmission (e.g., contact, droplet, airborne).

### **PROCEDURES:**

#### **1.0 Principals Responsibilities**

- 1.1 Ensure a report is made to Hamilton Public Health Services, when in the Principal's opinion (does not need to be confirmed case) that a pupil in a school has or may have a communicable disease as outlined in this procedure and [Appendix A or B](#).

## **COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE**

---

- 1.2 Consult with Hamilton Public Health Services if any clusters of illness are present (e.g. a cohort of students in a classroom are absent from school with similar symptoms such as diarrhea, nausea and/or vomiting) and HPHS will investigate as appropriate.
- 1.3 Ensure Routine Practices for Infection Control (SP-09) and applicable additional precautions are in place, and this Procedure is adhered to, using Appendix A or B as a guide to manage diseases.
- 1.4 Consult the parent/guardian, Occupational Health and Safety Department and/or Hamilton Public Health Services as needed to ensure adequate IPAC precautions are in place.
- 1.5 Ensure the privacy of staff and students is respected by adhering to the Board's Privacy Policy and Procedure.
- 1.6 As directed by HPHS or as outlined in Appendix A, communicate with the families of the impacted cohort and/or staff.
- 1.7 Work closely with HPHS to prevent the spread of communicable diseases in the school community.

### **2.0 Staff Responsibilities**

- 2.1 Follow the Routine Practices for Infection Control (SP-09) document.
- 2.2 Follow instructions from the principal including any IPAC precautions and those included in this procedure.
- 2.3 Report workplace hazards to the principal, including concerns about exposure or potential exposure to infectious materials.
- 2.4 Use personal protective equipment (PPE) when instructed (e.g., gloves, mask, etc.).
- 2.5 Ensure the privacy of staff and students is respected.

### **3.0 Occupational Health & Safety Department Responsibilities**

- 3.1 Where necessary, advise schools and Facilities Services in IPAC and reporting obligations.
- 3.2 Provide guidance on communicable diseases with respect to staff safety and any additional precautions for IPAC.

## **COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE**

---

### **4.0 Facility Services Responsibilities:**

- 4.1 Execute routine practices for infection control with respect to environmental cleaning.
- 4.2 Provide instructions to caretaking staff in proper disinfecting procedures.
- 4.3 Where necessary, support the student accommodation process with respect to caretaking services.

### **5.0 Communication and Community Engagement Responsibilities**

- 5.1 Support schools in communication in conjunction with HPHS where direction has been provided by HPHS.
- 5.2 Notify applicable community(s) of school closures.

### **6.0 Process**

- 6.1 Reporting Communicable Diseases to Public Health
  - 6.1.1 Principals are to ensure that a report is made to HPHS as outlined in [Appendix A or B](#) for each individual disease.
  - 6.1.2 Reports to HPHS are to include:
    - Name, address and telephone number
    - Date of birth in full
    - Sex
    - Name and address in full of the school
    - Name of suspected or confirmed communicable disease
  - 6.1.3 Reports are to be made to:
    - Hamilton Public Health Services (HPHS)
    - (905) 546-2063 Monday to Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm
    - Review [Appendix A and B](#) for specific guidance on individual diseases.
- 6.2 Communication of Communicable Diseases
  - 6.2.1 Communicate to families as directed by HPHS and listed in [Appendix A](#).
  - 6.2.2 The Occupational Health and Safety Department shall post the information to the intranet to notify all Board staff, including occasional or visiting staff, to the incidents of communicable diseases when staff notification is required.

## **COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE**

---

### **6.3 Accommodation for Staff**

- 6.3.1 Pregnant or immunocompromised individuals may require additional considerations. Staff should consult their physician regarding any additional risks, measures, or testing that may be undertaken, and contact Employee Support and Wellness should they have a need for medical accommodation.

### **6.4 Additional Precautions**

- 6.4.1 Additional precautions may be necessary in order to reduce the risk of transmission in addition to routine practices. Precautions will vary, based on the circumstances. Schools can consult with the Occupational Health and Safety Department and/or HPHS to discuss any additional precautions, if any. These could include:
  - 6.4.1.1 Adjusting environmental cleaning practices – Could include a change in disinfectant or schedule
  - 6.4.1.2 Removing or reducing shared items
  - 6.4.1.3 Additional information and instructions for staff
  - 6.4.1.4 Personal Protective Equipment
  - 6.4.1.5 Contact, droplet or airborne precautions
  - 6.4.1.6 Changes in ventilation
  - 6.4.1.7 Student accommodation process
  - 6.4.1.8 Alternate program delivery
  - 6.4.1.9 Communication to the community

### **6.5 Alternative Instructions**

- 6.5.1 There may be times where HPHS, the Chief Medical Officer of Health or Ministry of Education may exercise powers given to them under various legislation to provide direction to HWDSB. This may require schools to take measures not identified here or that directly contradict this Procedure.
- 6.5.2 We may also be required to take alternate actions to address an immediate issue, such as during an outbreak or other times of elevated risk.
- 6.5.3 A student, based on their individual circumstances, may receive medical clearance to return to school, contrary to this guide. Where necessary, they may need to be supported through the accommodation process to ensure their safety and the safety of others.

## **COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE**

---

### **7.0 Resources**

7.1.1 For information on hand hygiene, personal protective equipment, and environmental cleaning, staff are directed to the following documents:

7.1.1.1 Medical Health Supports Policy, Blood Borne Pathogens Procedure

7.1.1.2 Routine Practices for Infection Control (SP-09)

7.1.2 The Occupational Health and Safety Department and HPHS may assist when looking at additional precautions.

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE**

---

**Link to Diseases found in Appendix A or B**

**A:**

Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome ("AIDS")

Amebiasis

Anthrax

**B:**

Bedbugs

Blastomycosis ("Gilchrist Disease")

Botulism

Brucellosis ("Undulant Fever, Mediterranean Fever, Malta Fever")

**C:**

Campylobacter Enteritis (Campylobacter Infection)

Candida Auris Infection

Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) infection or colonization

Chancroid ("Soft Chancre")

Chicken Pox ("Varicella")

Chlamydia Trachomatis Infections ("Chlamydia")

Cholera

Conjunctivitis ("Pink Eye" – Bacterial or Viral)

Coronavirus (Novel), (includes Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome)

Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease (CJD)

Cryptosporidiosis ("Crypto")

Cyclosporiasis

**D:**

Diarrhea

Diphtheria

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE**

---

**E:**

E. Coli Infections (including Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome)

Echinococcus Multilocularis Infection (“The Fox Tapeworm”)

Encephalitis (Viral)

**F:**

Fever

Fifth Disease (“Slapped Cheek”)

Food Poisoning

**G:**

Giardiasis (“Beaver Fever”)

Gonorrhea

**H:**

Haemophilus Influenza Diseases

Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome

Hemorrhagic Fevers (Ebola, Marburg, Lassa or other)

Hepatitis A

Hepatitis B

Hepatitis C

**I:**

Impetigo

**L:**

Legionellosis (“Legionnaires Disease and Pontiac Fever”)

Leprosy (“Hansen’s Disease”)

Lice (“Pediculosis”)

Listeriosis (“Listeria”)

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE**

---

**M:**

Measles ("Rubeola")

Meningococcal Disease or Meningitis (Bacterial or Viral)

Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA)

Molluscum Contagiosum ("Water Warts")

Mononucleosis ("Mono")

Mumps ("Viral Parotitis")

**N:**

Norovirus

**P:**

Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning

Pertussis ("Whooping Cough")

Pinworm

Plague

Pneumococcal Disease (Invasive)

Poliomyelitis ("Polio")

Psittacosis/Ornithosis ("Parrot Fever")

**Q:**

Q Fever

**R:**

Rabies

Respiratory Illness (includes COVID-19, Influenza and Colds)

Respiratory Syncytial Virus ("RSV")

Ringworm ("Athletes Foot")

Roseola Infantum ("Sixth Disease")

Rubella ("German Measles")

Rubella, congenital syndrome



**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE**

---

**S:**

Salmonellosis / Salmonella Non-Typhi

Salmonellosis / Salmonella Typhi ("Typhoid Fever")

Salmonellosis / Salmonella Paratyphi ("Paratyphoid Fever")

Scabies

Scarlet Fever

Shigellosis ("Shigella Infection")

Shingles ("Herpes Zoster")

Smallpox and other orthopoxviruses, including monkeypox

Strep Throat

Syphilis

**T:**

Tetanus ("Lockjaw")

Trichinosis (Trichinellosis)

Tuberculosis ("TB")

Tularemia ("Rabbit Fever")

**V:**

Vomiting

**Y:**

Yersiniosis

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
<b>Amebiasis</b>	<p>Caused by a parasite/cyst that may result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Abdominal distension</li> <li>➤ Diarrhea</li> <li>➤ Fever</li> <li>➤ Chills</li> <li>➤ Weight loss</li> </ul> <p>An individual may be infected without having any symptoms.</p>	<p>Fecal-oral route. Direct contact with fecal matter from infected individual or consuming food and water contaminated by feces that contain the parasite. Indirect contact with contaminated items.</p>	<p>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</p>	<p>Student stays home until 24 hours after fever resolved and symptoms are improving or 48 hours after GI symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) have resolved or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<p>➤ Symptomatic individuals must not be involved in food preparation.</p> <p>Treatment available</p>
<b>Bedbugs</b>	<p>Not reportable to HPHS. Refer to Pest Management in HWDSB and HWDSB Operational Protocol for Pest Removal Services.</p>				
<b>Campylobacter Enteritis</b> (Campylobacter Infection)	<p>Caused by a bacterium that may result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Diarrhea</li> <li>➤ Abdominal pain</li> <li>➤ Malaise</li> <li>➤ Fever</li> <li>➤ Nausea</li> <li>➤ Vomiting</li> </ul>	<p>Ingestion of undercooked meat/poultry, unpasteurized milk contaminated food or water.</p> <p>Fecal-oral route, contact with fecal matter from infected animals (i.e., pets).</p>	<p>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</p> <p>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</p>	<p>Student stays home until 24 hours after fever resolved and symptoms are improving or 48 hours after GI symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) have resolved or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<p>➤ Symptomatic individuals must not be involved in food preparation.</p> <p>Treatment available</p>

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
<b>Chicken Pox</b> ("Varicella")	Caused by a virus that may result in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ red and spotty rash that turns into itchy, fluid-filled blisters which eventually crust over.</li> <li>➤ Slight fever</li> <li>➤ Fatigue</li> </ul>	Direct contact with fluid from blisters. Indirect contact with items contaminated with the blister fluid (e.g., clothing, linens). May transmit from person to person via air.  <b>NOTE:</b> Vaccination is part of the routine childhood immunization schedule.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> <li>➤ Email <a href="mailto:communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca">communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca</a></li> <li>➤ Notify school staff</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	Student may attend school when they no longer have fever (afebrile) and feeling well enough to participate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Avoid direct contact with infected individual's blisters. Cover blisters where possible.</li> <li>➤ Reduce sharing of personal items.</li> <li>➤ Pregnant and immunocompromised individuals can discuss this with their physician as needed</li> <li>➤ If a cluster of students is symptomatic, pause activities of direct physical contact.</li> </ul>
<b>Conjunctivitis</b> ("Pink Eye" – Bacterial or Viral)	An infection of the covering of the eyeball and inside the eyelid causing by either a virus or bacteria which may cause: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Runny, red eye(s), tearing with pus or mucous discharge.</li> <li>➤ Itchy and painful eye(s)</li> <li>➤ Swollen eyelid</li> <li>➤ Fever</li> </ul>	Direct contact with discharge from infected individual's eye, or indirect contact with a contaminated item (e.g., makeup, tissue) or droplets from coughing and sneezing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if student who is experiencing eye discharge is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	Student stays home until 1 full day of antibiotic treatment (if known to be bacterial) or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse (if viral).  Student may continue to attend school if there is no discharge.	<p>If a cluster of students is symptomatic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Reduce sharing items.</li> <li>➤ Avoid touching eyes.</li> <li>➤ Carefully dispose of (or clean) articles contaminated with discharge.</li> </ul> <p>Treatment may be available</p>

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
<b>Cryptosporidiosis</b> (“Crypto”)	<p>Caused by a parasite that may result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Diarrhea</li> <li>➤ Abdominal pain/cramps</li> <li>➤ Mild fever</li> <li>➤ Fatigue</li> <li>➤ Weight loss</li> <li>➤ Vomiting</li> </ul> <p>An individual may be infected without having any symptoms.</p>	<p>Fecal-oral route, contact with feces of infected person and carriers or ingestion of contaminated water or food contaminated with fecal matter. May be transmitted when swimming in contaminated water.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> </ul>	<p>Student stays home until 24 hours after fever resolved and symptoms are improving or 48 hours after GI symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) have resolved or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Symptomatic individuals must not be involved in food preparation.</li> <li>➤ Individuals are not to use recreational waters for 2 weeks after symptoms resolve.</li> </ul>
<b>Diarrhea</b>	<p>If unknown cause</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if student who is experiencing diarrhea is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	<p>Student stays home until 24 hours after last diarrhea episode or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	
<b>E. Coli Infections</b> (including Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome)	<p>Caused by toxin produced by the E. Coli bacteria which may result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Diarrhea which may include blood</li> <li>➤ Abdominal cramps/pain</li> <li>➤ Fatigue</li> <li>➤ Vomiting</li> <li>➤ Fever</li> </ul> <p>If HUS, may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Decreased urine output</li> <li>➤ Fatigue</li> <li>➤ Pale Skin</li> </ul>	<p>Spread through consuming contaminated water or food (e.g., raw or undercooked, beef, poultry, unwashed raw fruits and vegetables, unpasteurized milk or juice), or fecal-oral route.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> <li>➤ Notify school staff of any changes to nutrition or other food program practices.</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	<p>Student stays home until 24 hours after fever resolved and symptoms are improving or 48 hours after GI symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) have resolved or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<p>If a cluster of symptomatic students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Follow guidance from HPHS (if any) or Occupational Health and Safety Department to review nutrition programs, food programs or food preparation practices, if applicable.</li> </ul>

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
<b>Fever</b>	If unknown cause		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> </ul>	Student may attend school when fever has resolved for 24 hours or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.	
<b>Fifth Disease</b> ("Slapped Cheek")	<p>Caused by the human parvovirus B19 which may result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Flu-like symptoms present approximately 7 days prior to onset of red rash on cheeks commonly known as "slapped cheek", which then spreads to the body after 1-4 days</li> <li>➤ Rash may continue to re-appear for 1-3 weeks</li> </ul> <p>Once recovered, individuals develop immunity from a future infection.</p>	Direct contact with infected individual, indirect contact with contaminated items, or possibly through inhalation of respiratory droplets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> <li>➤ Email <a href="mailto:communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca">communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca</a></li> <li>➤ Notify school staff</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	Student may attend school if feeling well enough to participate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Pregnant and immunocompromised individuals can discuss this with their physician as needed.</li> </ul>
<b>Food Poisoning</b>	Caused by consuming a contaminated food product which may result in diarrhea and/or vomiting.	Consuming contaminated food, or fecal-oral route through indirect contact with contaminated items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> <li>➤ Notify school staff of any changes to nutrition or other food program practices.</li> </ul>	Student stays home until 48 hours after GI symptoms (diarrhea, vomiting, nausea) have resolved and free from fever or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.	If a cluster of symptomatic students: Discuss with HPHS before continuing serving prepared foods. Follow guidance from HPHS (if any) and review nutrition programs, food programs or food preparation practices, if applicable.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
<b>Giardiasis</b> ("Beaver Fever")	Caused by a parasite which may result in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Diarrhea (pale, greasy)</li><li>➤ Abdominal pain/cramps</li><li>➤ Bloating, gas</li><li>➤ Loss of appetite</li><li>➤ Weight loss</li><li>➤ Fatigue</li></ul> An individual may be infected without having any symptoms.	Fecal-oral route, direct contact with infected individual's feces or consuming food or water contaminated by the feces of infected animals or individuals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li><li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li></ul>	Student stays home until 24 hours after fever resolved and symptoms are improving or 48 hours after GI symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) have resolved or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Infected individuals should not swim until free of symptoms for 14 days.</li></ul> Treatment may be available
<b>Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease</b>	Caused by a virus which may result in mild fever, followed by small painful ulcers in the mouth, and blisters (water spots) on the hands, feet and between fingers/toes or buttocks.  An individual may be infected without having any symptoms.	Direct contact with respiratory discharge, airborne droplets, blister fluid or individual's feces, or indirect contact with contaminated items and surfaces from respiratory droplets or fecal matter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li></ul>	Student may attend school if feeling well enough to participate and free from fever.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Avoid direct contact with infected individual's blisters. Cover blisters where possible.</li></ul> If a cluster of students is symptomatic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Consult with the Occupational Health and Safety Department</li><li>➤</li></ul>

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
Hepatitis A	<p>Liver infection caused by the Hep. A virus in stool, which may result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Fever</li> <li>➤ Nausea</li> <li>➤ Vomiting</li> <li>➤ Abdominal pain</li> <li>➤ Tea-coloured urine</li> <li>➤ Jaundice</li> <li>➤ Fatigue</li> </ul> <p>Children may be infected without any symptoms.</p>	<p>Consuming a contaminated food product, or fecal-oral route through indirect contact with contaminated items. Classroom exposure does not pose a significant risk for infection.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	<p>Student stays home until 14 days after onset of illness or 7 days after onset of jaundice, or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<p>If a cluster of students are symptomatic, consult with HPHS and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Department</p>
Impetigo	<p>Skin infection caused by <i>Group A Streptococcus</i> or <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> bacteria, which may result in the following signs and symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Red bumps or pus-filled lesions that form thick yellow crusts overtop, often appearing around mouth, nose, diaper area, arms, and lower legs</li> </ul>	<p>Direct contact with fluid from blisters on the individual or contact with nose or throat secretions of infected individual. Indirect contact with personal items contaminated items with blister fluid (e.g., towels or clothing).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> <li>➤ Email <a href="mailto:communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca">communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca</a></li> <li>➤ Notify school staff</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	<p>Student stays home until 24 hours after antibiotics treatment is received and when blisters have dried, or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<p>If a cluster of students are symptomatic,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Consult with HPHS and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Department</li> <li>➤ Some additional precautions may include:</li> <li>➤ Avoid direct contact with infected individual's blisters. Cover blisters where possible.</li> <li>➤ Reduce sharing of personal items.</li> <li>➤ Pause activities with direct physical contact.</li> </ul> <p>Treatment available</p>

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
Lice (“Pediculosis”)	Not reportable to HPHS. Refer to HWDSB Pediculosis (Lice) Management Procedure				
Measles (“Rubeola”)	Caused by a virus which may result in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ High fever</li><li>➤ Cough</li><li>➤ Fatigue</li><li>➤ Irritability</li><li>➤ Red eyes 2-4 days before rash</li><li>➤ Runny nose</li><li>➤ Small white spots in the mouth and throat</li><li>➤ After 3-7 days of initial symptoms, a red blotchy rash on the face and then progressing down the body</li></ul>	Spread from person to person through the air. Direct contact with an infected person’s nose, throat or mouth secretions, or indirect contact with a contaminated surface or object.  <b>NOTE:</b> Vaccination is part of the routine childhood immunization schedule.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li><li>➤ Email <a href="mailto:communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca">communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca</a></li><li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li><li>➤</li></ul>	Student stays home until at least 4 days after the onset of rash, or in consultation with the treating physician, nurse or HPHS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Individuals with incomplete measles immunization or exemptions to the vaccine may be excluded from school under direction from HPHS.</li></ul>



COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
<b>Meningococcal Disease or Meningitis</b> (Bacteria or Viral)	An infection of the membranes and fluid around the brain or virus and spinal cord which is caused by bacteria and results in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Sepsis</li> <li>➤ Fever</li> <li>➤ Pinpoint rash that rapidly progresses to large red-purple bruises.</li> <li>➤ Vomiting</li> <li>➤ Lethargy</li> <li>➤ Headache</li> <li>➤ Stiff neck and back</li> <li>➤ Seizures</li> </ul>	Direct contact with nose, throat or mouth secretions or respiratory droplets.  <b>NOTE:</b> Vaccination is part of the routine childhood immunization schedule.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	Student stays home in consultation with treating physician, nurse or HPHS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Individuals with incomplete immunization or exemptions to the vaccine may be excluded from school under direction from HPHS.</li> <li>➤ HPHS may advise of additional measures for invasive meningococcal disease</li> </ul>
<b>Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA)</b>	Caused by a bacterium normally present on skin and in noses. Infected individual may not be sick but can carry and spread MRSA to others. Signs and symptoms include skin infections (i.e., blisters, pimples, boils), fever & and chills.	Direct skin-to-skin contact, or indirect contact with a contaminated surface (e.g., doorknob, desktop, etc.).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> </ul>	Student may attend school if feeling well enough to participate and free from fever.	
<b>Molluscum Contagiosum</b> ("Water Warts")	Caused by a virus and may result in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Small, smooth, shiny, pinkish-white bumps with a sunken centre found anywhere on the <b>body</b></li> </ul>	Direct skin-to-skin contact, or indirect contact with contaminated personal items from lesions (e.g., clothing, towel).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> </ul>	Student may attend school if feeling well enough to participate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Avoid direct contact with infected individual's warts/lesions.</li> <li>➤ Cover infected individual's warts if possible.</li> </ul>

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
<b>Mononucleosis</b> ("Mono")	<p>Caused by the Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) and may result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Fever</li> <li>➤ Sore throat</li> <li>➤ Swollen lymph nodes</li> <li>➤ Fatigue</li> <li>➤ Loss of appetite</li> <li>➤ Rash</li> </ul> <p>Individuals may carry the virus without any symptoms.</p>	<p>Direct contact with respiratory secretions or saliva.</p> <p>Indirect contact with contaminated items from saliva (e.g., putting contaminated utensil or toy in mouth).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> </ul>	<p>Student may attend school if feeling well enough to participate and free from fever.</p>	<p>If a cluster of students are symptomatic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Reduce sharing items.</li> <li>➤ Carefully dispose of (or clean) articles contaminated with secretions or saliva.</li> </ul>
<b>Mumps</b> ("Viral Parotitis")	<p>Caused by a virus in saliva and respiratory secretions that may result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Fever</li> <li>➤ Headache</li> <li>➤ Swelling at jaw line of salivary glands.</li> </ul>	<p>Direct contact with respiratory secretions of infected individual, or indirect contact with contaminated items.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Vaccination is part of the routine childhood immunization schedule.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> <li>➤ Email <a href="mailto:communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca">communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca</a> if asked by HPHS to communicate with staff or the community</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program .</li> <li>➤</li> </ul>	<p>Student stays home until 5 days after onset of swelling, or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<p>Individuals with incomplete immunization or exemptions to the vaccine may be excluded from school under guidance form HPHS.</p>

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
Norovirus	<p>Caused by a virus that may result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Diarrhea (non-bloody)</li> <li>➤ Vomiting</li> <li>➤ Nausea</li> <li>➤ Stomach pain</li> </ul>	<p>Fecal-oral route, direct contact with infected individual’s feces or consuming food or water contaminated by the feces of infected individuals.</p> <p>Direct contact with vomit or sprayed droplets from vomiting.</p>	<p>Schools are not required to report individual cases but consult with HPHS when absentee rates rise significantly due to viral gastroenteritis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program</li> </ul>	<p>Student stays home until 48 hours after last diarrhea episode and vomiting has stopped or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Symptomatic individuals must not be involved in food preparation for 2 days after symptoms end.</li> </ul>
Pertussis (“Whooping Cough”)	<p>Respiratory illness caused by a bacterium which may result in repeated bouts of violent coughing, following by a deep inhalation causing the characteristic “whooping” sound and, vomiting.</p>	<p>Direct contact with respiratory secretions from coughing or sneezing, or indirect contact with contaminated items.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Vaccination is part of the routine childhood immunization schedule.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> <li>➤ Email <a href="mailto:communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca">communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca</a> if asked by HPHS to communicate with staff or the community</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	<p>Student stays home until 5 days after treatment is received or for 3 weeks after onset of illness if untreated and in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ If a cluster of students is symptomatic, consult with HPHS and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Department.</li> </ul> <p>Treatment available</p>

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
<b>Pinworm</b>	Caused by a tiny white threadlike worm living in the large intestine and crawls out of the anus at night to lay eggs, resulting in intense itchiness around the anus. Pinworms are not known to cause disease.	Fecal-oral route or indirect contact with items contaminated with eggs such as bedding, clothing, and food.	➤ No reporting to HPHS required	Student may attend school if feeling well enough to participate.	If a cluster of students is symptomatic ➤ Consult with Occupational Health and Safety Department.  Treatment available
<b>Pneumococcal Disease (Invasive)</b>	Caused by a bacterium which may result in: ➤ Sore throat ➤ Sensitive to light ➤ Fever, chills ➤ Cough ➤ Shortness of breath ➤ Chest pain ➤ Joint pain/infection ➤ Ear infection ➤ Sinus infection ➤ Pneumonia	Direct oral contact or contact with respiratory secretions/droplets.	➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063 ➤ Email <a href="mailto:communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca">communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca</a> if asked by HPHS to communicate with staff or the community ➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.	Student stays home until 24 hours after treatment is received and free from fever or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.	Follow guidance from HPHS, if any.  Treatment available

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
<b>Respiratory Illnesses</b> (includes COVID-19, Influenza and Colds)	Caused by a virus or bacteria that leads to a wide range of symptoms from mild to severe and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Fever or chills</li><li>➤ Cough</li><li>➤ Shortness of breath</li><li>➤ Headache</li><li>➤ Loss of taste or smell</li><li>➤ Sore throat</li><li>➤ Congested/runny nose</li><li>➤ Nausea/vomiting</li><li>➤ Diarrhea</li></ul>	Direct contact with respiratory droplets and aerosols of infected individual and direct contact with contaminated hands. Indirect contact with contaminated surfaces and objects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Schools are to report laboratory confirmed cases of influenza and COVID-19 (does not include rapid antigen testing) and HPHS will respond as appropriate.</li><li>➤ Schools are not required to report individual suspected cases of colds, COVID-19 or influenza to HPHS.</li><li>➤ Schools can consult with HPHS when absentee rates rise significantly due to suspected cases.</li><li>➤ Email <a href="mailto:communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca">communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca</a> if directions provided by HPHS.</li><li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li></ul>	Student should stay home until ALL the following apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours (or 48 hours if nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea were present)</li><li>➤ No fever</li></ul>	Refer to the following external resources for protective measures, screening and staying home when sick: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <a href="#">Cold, Flu &amp; COVID-19</a> by the City of Hamilton</li><li>➤ <a href="#">Protection from COVID-19 and Other Respiratory Illnesses</a> by the Ministry of Health</li></ul> Consult with Hamilton Public Health Services as needed.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (“RSV”)	Upper and lower respiratory tract infections caused by RSV, which may result in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Stuffy and runny nose</li><li>➤ Coughing</li><li>➤ Earache</li><li>➤ Rapid breathing</li><li>➤ Fever</li></ul>	Direct contact with respiratory secretions/droplets. Indirect contact with contaminated items or surfaces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li></ul>	Student may attend school if feeling well enough to participate and free from fever.	
Ringworm (“Athletes Foot”)	Caused by a fungus which results in itchy, flat, red circular patches/lesions with a scaly or crusted border on the body, feet or scalp (bald spots).	Direct skin contact with patches/lesions Indirect contact with contaminated items (e.g., hairbrush) or surfaces (e.g., shower, pool).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li><li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program and has lesions on the body.</li></ul>	Student stays home until first treatment has been applied, or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Avoid direct contact with infected individual’s patches/lesions.</li><li>➤ Cover up patches/lesions with a dry bandage, where possible.</li><li>➤ Avoid activities involving direct skin-to-skin contact.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ I</li></ul></li></ul> <p>Treatment available</p>
Roseola Infantum (“Sixth Disease”)	Caused by a virus which may result in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Sudden high fever for 3 to 5 days followed by a rash of small red spots beginning on neck and chest then spreads to body</li></ul> <p>Many individuals have the virus in their saliva without symptoms.</p>	Direct contact with respiratory secretions and saliva.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li></ul>	Student may attend school if feeling well enough to participate and free from fever.	

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
<b>Rubella</b> ("German Measles")	Caused by a virus which may result in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Fever</li> <li>➤ Headache</li> <li>➤ Runny nose</li> <li>➤ Red eyes</li> <li>➤ Enlarged lymph nodes in neck and behind ears, followed by a rash that starts in the face and spreads within 24 hours.</li> </ul>	Direct contact with respiratory secretions/droplets. Indirect contact with contaminated items.  <b>NOTE:</b> Vaccination is part of the routine childhood immunization schedule.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> <li>➤ Email <a href="mailto:communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca">communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca</a></li> <li>➤ Notify school staff.</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	Student stays home until 7 days after onset of rash and in consultation with the treating physician.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Pregnant and immunocompromised individuals can discuss this with their physician as needed</li> </ul>
<b>Salmonellosis / Salmonella Non-Typhi</b>	Caused by bacteria and may result in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Diarrhea</li> <li>➤ Cramps</li> <li>➤ Fever</li> </ul>	Fecal-oral route, contact with feces or urine of infected person and carriers or ingestion of contaminated water or food contaminated with fecal matter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	Student stays home until 24 hours after fever resolved and symptoms are improving or 48 hours after GI symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) have resolved or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.	If a cluster of students is symptomatic consult with HPHS and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Department.
<b>Salmonellosis / Salmonella Typhi</b> ("Typhoid Fever")	Caused by bacteria (Salmonella) and may result in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Fever</li> <li>➤ Headache</li> <li>➤ Dry cough</li> <li>➤ Loss of appetite</li> <li>➤ Nausea</li> <li>➤ Abdominal discomfort/cramps</li> <li>➤ Malaise</li> <li>➤ Diarrhea</li> </ul> Individuals may be infected without any symptoms and be carriers.	Fecal-oral route, contact with feces or urine of infected person and carriers or ingestion of contaminated water or food contaminated with fecal matter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	Student stays home until 24 hours after fever resolved and symptoms are improving or 48 hours after GI symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) have resolved or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Exclude individuals from food handling until 48 hours after diarrhea subsides.</li> </ul> Treatment available  If a cluster of students is symptomatic consult with HPHS and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Department.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
Salmonellosis / Salmonella Paratyphi (“Paratyphoid Fever”)	<p>Caused by bacteria (Salmonella) and may result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Fever</li><li>➤ Headache</li><li>➤ Dry cough</li><li>➤ Loss of appetite</li><li>➤ Nausea</li><li>➤ Abdominal discomfort/cramps</li><li>➤ Malaise</li><li>➤ Diarrhea</li></ul> <p>Individuals may be infected without any symptoms and be carriers.</p>	<p>Fecal-oral route, contact with feces or urine of infected person and carriers or ingestion of contaminated water or food contaminated with fecal matter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS (905) 546-2063</b></li><li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li></ul>	<p>Student stays home until 24 hours after fever resolved and symptoms are improving or 48 hours after GI symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) have resolved or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Exclude individuals from food handling until 48 hours after diarrhea subsides.</li></ul> <p>Treatment available</p> <p>If a cluster of students is symptomatic consult with HPHS and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Department.</p>



COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
Scabies	Caused by a mite that burrows under the skin, leaving a rash which appears as bumps, patches or tiny red lines resulting in intense itching.	Prolonged direct skin-to-skin contact or indirect contact with infested clothing, towels, or other textiles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul> <p>If multiple cases outside of the same household:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Email <a href="mailto:communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca">communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca</a></li> <li>➤ Notify parent/guardian of student with infestation and advise to consult with physician and/or pharmacist.</li> <li>➤ Notify parents/guardians of students in affected classroom.</li> </ul>	Student stays home until first treatment has been applied.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Consult with the Occupational Health and Safety Department</li> <li>➤ Avoid direct contact with infected individual's sores.</li> <li>➤ Wash contaminated items in hot water and dry on high heat, or isolate the items in a sealed bag for at least 3 days to kill the mites.</li> <li>➤ Alternately, place items into bag and into freezer for 2 days.</li> <li>➤ Vacuum carpets and upholstered furniture.</li> </ul> <p>Treatment available</p>
Scarlet Fever	Caused by a bacterium (streptococcal) and may result: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Rough, red rash beginning on chest and stomach, then spreads to body.</li> <li>➤ Fever, nausea, vomiting, sore throat, red swollen lips, "strawberry-like" tongue, and flushed cheeks</li> </ul>	Direct contact with respiratory secretions of infected individual or indirect contact with contaminated items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	Student stays home until at least 24 hours of treatment is received and free from fever or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.	<p>If a cluster of students are symptomatic, consult the Occupational Health and Safety Department</p> <p>Treatment available</p>

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
<b>Shigellosis</b> ("Shigella Infection")	<p>Caused by a Shigella bacteria that may result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Diarrhea</li> <li>➤ Fever</li> <li>➤ Nausea</li> <li>➤ Vomiting</li> <li>➤ Abdominal cramping</li> </ul> <p>Individuals may be infected without any symptoms.</p>	<p>Fecal-oral route, Direct contact with an infected person Indirect contact with contaminated items or surfaces, water, or food handled by an infected individual.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	<p>Student stays home until 24 hours after fever resolved and symptoms are improving or 48 hours after GI symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) have resolved or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ If a cluster of students is symptomatic, increase environmental cleaning of high-touch points in affected classroom.</li> </ul> <p>Treatment available</p>
<b>Shingles</b> ("Herpes Zoster")	<p>An infection of the nerve endings caused by the reactivation of the dormant varicella virus (chicken pox). May include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Painful, blistering rash usually localized in one area of the body.</li> </ul>	<p>Shingles is not transmittable; however individuals can get chickenpox from an individual with shingles through direct contact with blister fluid.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Email <a href="mailto:communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca">communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca</a></li> <li>➤ <a href="#">Notify school staff</a></li> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	<p>Student may attend school if feeling well enough to participate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Cover lesions where possible</li> </ul>
<b>Strep Throat</b>	<p>Caused by a bacterium (streptococcal) and may result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Fever</li> <li>➤ Sore throat</li> <li>➤ Redness and white sports in throat.</li> </ul>	<p>Direct contact with respiratory secretions of infected individual or indirect contact with contaminated items.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	<p>Student stays home until at least 24 hours of treatment is received and free from fever or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ If a cluster of students is symptomatic increase environmental cleaning of shared items in affected classroom(s).</li> </ul> <p>Treatment available</p>

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
<b>Tuberculosis</b> ("TB")	<p>Caused by a bacteria (TB) and usually affects the lungs, but can travel in the bloodstream to other parts of the body. <b>Only active TB (in the lungs)</b> can be spread to others. Symptoms of active TB may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Fever</li> <li>➤ Cough</li> <li>➤ Difficulty breathing</li> <li>➤ Loss of appetite</li> <li>➤ Body pains</li> <li>➤ Weakness</li> </ul> <p>If outside the lungs, symptoms vary depending on location of infection.</p>	<p>Direct contact with respiratory secretions/droplets by an individual infected with <b>active TB</b> (in the lungs) or indirect contact with contaminated items. If the TB is outside of the lungs, the disease is not contagious.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Report to HPHS</b> (905) 546-2063</li> <li><b>If active TB:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Follow HPHS guidance on whether communication to staff or the community is required.</li> <li>➤ If further communication is required, email <a href="mailto:communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca">communicable.diseases@hwdsb.on.ca</a></li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if ill student is directed to stay home</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Determined by HPHS or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	<p><b>If Active TB:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Other measures as advised by Public Health or the Occupational Health and Safety Department.</li> </ul>
<b>Vomiting</b>	If Unknown		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No reporting to HPHS required</li> <li>➤ Notify Before and After School Care if student who is experiencing vomiting is enrolled in the program.</li> </ul>	<p>Student stays home until vomiting stops for 48 hours or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.</p>	

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE

Appendix A

Suspected Disease / Illness	Cause & Signs / Symptoms	Transmission (How the disease is spread)	Reporting and Communication Requirements	What to do with the student	Additional or Alternative Precautions
Yersiniosis	Caused by bacteria and may result in the following signs and symptoms: ➤ <b>Small children:</b> fever, diarrhea ➤ <b>Older children/adults:</b> abdominal pain, fever	Fecal-oral route, or indirect contact with contaminated food and water (e.g., pork).	➤ <b>Report to HPHS (905) 546-2063</b>	Student stays home until 24 hours after fever resolved and symptoms are improving or 48 hours after GI symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) have resolved or in consultation with the treating physician or nurse.	If a cluster of students are symptomatic, consult the Occupational Health and Safety Department

References:

1. City of Hamilton Public Health, Infection Control Guideline for Child Care Centres, Version 4.0 (2017)
2. Canadian Pediatrics Society, Managing Infections
3. BC Centre for Disease Control: A Quick Guide to Common Childhood Diseases (October 2021)
4. Caring for Kids (<https://www.caringforkids.cps.ca>)
5. CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<https://www.cdc.gov>)
6. City of Hamilton Public Health Services (<https://www.hamilton.ca/public-health>)
7. Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care ([www.health.gov.on.ca](http://www.health.gov.on.ca))
8. Ottawa Public Health: Guidelines for Schools and Child Care Centres on Infectious Diseases and Other Childhood Health Issues (February 2022)
9. Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services: Guidelines for Prevention and Management of Infectious Diseases in Schools (January 2018)
10. Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services: Infectious Diseases Exclusion Guidelines for Child Care Providers and Schools (January 2018)

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE**

**APPENDIX B: Other Diseases Designated as Reportable**

The following diseases/illnesses are to be reported to  
Hamilton Public Health Services at (905) 546-2063

Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome ("AIDS")	Hepatitis B
Anthrax	Hepatitis C
Blastomycosis ("Gilchrist Disease")	Legionellosis ("Legionnaires Disease and Pontiac Fever")
Botulism	Leprosy ("Hansen's Disease")
Brucellosis ("Undulant Fever, Mediterranean Fever, Malta Fever")	Listeriosis ("Listeria")
Candida Auris Infection	Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning
Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) infection or colonization	Plague
Chancroid ("Soft Chancre")	Poliomyelitis ("Polio")
Chlamydia Trachomatis Infections ("Chlamydia")	Psittacosis /Ornithosis ("Parrot Fever")
Cholera	Q Fever
Coronavirus (Novel) includes Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (See Appendix A for COVID-19)	Rabies
Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease (CJD)	Rubella, congenital syndrome
Cyclosporiasis	Smallpox and other ortho poxviruses, including monkeypox
Diphtheria	Syphilis
Echinococcus Multilocularis Infection ("The Fox Tapeworm")	Tetanus ("Lockjaw")
Encephalitis (Viral)	Trichinosis (Trichinellosis)
Gonorrhea	Tularemia ("Rabbit Fever")
Group A Streptococcal Disease, invasive	
Haemophilus Influenza Diseases	
Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome	
Hemorrhagic Fevers, (Ebola, Marburg, Lassa or other)	

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PROCEDURE**

---

**APPENDIX C: Communicable Diseases Warning Poster**

# **Attention all Visitors**

This information is being posted at the direction of  
Hamilton Public Health Services.

A case of \_\_\_\_\_ is suspected or confirmed  
at this school on \_\_\_\_\_.

All visitors are asked to report to the main office to sign in.

Stay home if you are feeling unwell. Your cooperation in  
keeping this school/facility safe is greatly appreciated.