

Health & Safety Fact Sheet

Infectious Disease at School/Work

What to Do

When presented with the information that a staff member, student or other member of the community (e.g. volunteer) - has been diagnosed with an infectious disease, the principal/institute director/officer-in-charge will need to take action to protect the school community.

STEP 1 - GATHER INFORMATION

1. Read the [Queensland Health Fact Sheet](#) for the disease?
2. Is it a [Contagious Condition](#)? (see table below)
3. Has the condition been diagnosed/confirmed by a doctor?
4. How long has the person been sick?
5. Has the person been sick while in the school/workplace?

Current List of [Contagious Conditions](#)

(follow the hyperlink to view a Qld Health Fact Sheet)

[Chickenpox \(Varicella\)](#)
[Diphtheria](#)
[Enterovirus 71](#)
[Gastroenteritis](#)
[German measles \(Rubella\)](#)
[Haemophilus influenzae type b \(Hib\) disease](#)
[Hepatitis A](#)
[Measles](#)
[Meningococcal disease](#)
[Poliomyelitis](#)
[Typhoid and paratyphoid](#)
[Tuberculosis](#)
[Whooping Cough \(Pertussis\)](#)

STEP 2 - MANAGEMENT of a CONTAGIOUS CONDITION

Exclusion - refer to the Queensland Health ["TIME OUT"](#) poster for exclusion requirements.

Contact the local Queensland Health [Public Health Unit](#) to inform them of the case and follow any advice they provide for local management/containment and recommended communications.

DETE Procedure: [Management of Prescribed Contagious Conditions](#).

STEP 3 - MANAGEMENT of other INFECTIOUS DISEASES

e.g. Cold sores, conjunctivitis, CMV, Influenza, Streptococcal sore throat, mumps, parvovirus, Glandular Fever etc

- Review the relevant [Queensland Health Fact Sheet](#)
- Call 13HEALTH (13 43 25 24) for information and/or
- Contact the local Queensland Health [Public Health Unit](#).
- If required, provide general information to the class or the school community e.g. a letter to parents with a copy of the [Queensland Health Fact Sheet](#) or an article in the newsletter.

Staying Home When Unwell: Adults (including TAFE students) who have been diagnosed with a contagious condition should follow medical advice with respect to exclusion from and return to the workplace. As a guide, adults should refer to the Queensland Health ["TIME OUT"](#) poster or the relevant Queensland Health fact sheet for information on the recommended minimum exclusion periods for infectious diseases.

NOTE FOR SCHOOLS – CONTAGIOUS CONDITIONS: If a member of school staff or a school student advises that they have been medically diagnosed with a *contagious condition* as defined by the *Public Health Act 2005* it is vital that steps are taken to protect the health of the school community in a timely manner in accordance with the *Public Health Act and Regulation 2005*.

Schools should contact the relevant regional officer to advise of the situation and any action taken.