

Minimum period of exclusion from primary schools and children's services centres for infectious diseases cases and contacts

health

Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009

Schedule 7

Minimum Period of Exclusion from Primary Schools and Children's Services Centres for Infectious Diseases Cases and Contacts (Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009).

In this Schedule, medical certificate means a certificate from a registered medical practitioner.

| [1] Conditions | [2] Exclusion of cases | [3] Exclusion of Contacts |
|--|---|--|
| Amoebiasis (<i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>) | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours | Not excluded |
| Campylobacter | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours | Not excluded |
| Chickenpox | Exclude until all blisters have dried. This is usually at least 5 days after the rash appears in unimmunised children, but may be less in previously immunised children | Any child with an immune deficiency (for example, leukaemia) or receiving chemotherapy should be excluded for their own protection. Otherwise not excluded |
| Conjunctivitis | Exclude until discharge from eyes has ceased | Not excluded |
| Diarrhoea | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours | Not excluded |
| Diphtheria | Exclude until medical certificate of recovery is received following at least two negative throat swabs, the first not less than 24 hours after finishing a course of antibiotics and the other 48 hours later | Exclude family/household contacts until cleared to return by the Secretary |
| Hand, Foot and Mouth disease | Exclude until all blisters have dried | Not excluded |
| Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) | Exclude until at least 4 days of appropriate antibiotic treatment has been completed | Not excluded |
| Hepatitis A | Exclude until a medical certificate of recovery is received, but not before 7 days after the onset of jaundice or illness | Not excluded |
| Hepatitis B | Exclusion is not necessary | Not excluded |
| Hepatitis C | Exclusion is not necessary | Not excluded |
| Herpes (cold sores) | Young children unable to comply with good hygiene practices should be excluded while the lesion is weeping. Lesions to be covered by dressing, where possible | Not excluded |
| Human immuno-deficiency virus infection (HIV/AIDS virus) | Exclusion is not necessary | Not excluded |
| Impetigo | Exclude until appropriate treatment has commenced. Sores on exposed surfaces must be covered with a watertight dressing | Not excluded |
| Influenza and influenza like illnesses | Exclude until well | Not excluded unless considered necessary by the Secretary |
| Leprosy | Exclude until approval to return has been given by the Secretary | Not excluded |
| Measles* | Exclude for at least 4 days after onset of rash | Immunised contacts not excluded. Unimmunised contacts should be excluded until 14 days after the first day of appearance of rash in the last case. If unimmunised contacts are vaccinated within 72 hours of their first contact with the first case, or received NHIG within 144 hours of exposure, they may return to the facility |
| Meningitis (bacteria —other than meningococcal meningitis) | Exclude until well | Not excluded |
| Meningococcal infection* | Exclude until adequate carrier eradication therapy has been completed | Not excluded if receiving carrier eradication therapy |
| Mumps* | Exclude for 9 days or until swelling goes down (whichever is sooner) | Not excluded |
| Pertussis* (Whooping cough) | Exclude the child for 21 days after the onset of cough or until they have completed 5 days of a course of antibiotic treatment | Contacts aged less than 7 years in the same room as the case who have not received three effective doses of pertussis vaccine should be excluded for 14 days after the last exposure to the infectious case, or until they have taken 5 days of a course of effective antibiotic treatment |
| Poliomyelitis* | Exclude for at least 14 days from onset. Re-admit after receiving medical certificate of recovery | Not excluded |
| Ringworm, scabies, pediculosis (head lice) | Exclude until the day after appropriate treatment has commenced | Not excluded |
| Rubella* (German measles) | Exclude until fully recovered or for at least four days after the onset of rash | Not excluded |
| Salmonella, Shigella | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours | Not excluded |
| Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) | Exclude until medical certificate of recovery is produced | Not excluded unless considered necessary by the Secretary |
| Streptococcal infection (including scarlet fever) | Exclude until the child has received antibiotic treatment for at least 24 hours and the child feels well | Not excluded |
| Tuberculosis | Exclude until receipt of a medical certificate from the treating physician stating that the child is not considered to be infectious | Not excluded |
| Typhoid fever (including paratyphoid fever) | Exclude until approval to return has been given by the Secretary | Not excluded unless considered necessary by the Secretary |
| Verotoxin producing Escherichia coli (VTEC) | Exclude if required by the Secretary and only for the period specified by the Secretary | Not excluded |
| Worms (Intestinal) | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours | Not excluded |

Statutory rule

A person in charge of a primary school or children's services centre must not allow a child to attend the primary school or children's services centre for the period or in the circumstances:

- specified in column 2 of the table in Schedule 7 if the person in charge has been informed that the child is infected with an infectious disease listed in column 1 of the table in Schedule 7; or
- specified in column 3 of the table in Schedule 7 if the person in charge has been informed that the child has been in contact with a person who is infected with an infectious disease listed in column 1 of the table in Schedule 7.

The person in charge of a primary school or children's services centre, when directed to do so by the Secretary, must ensure that a child enrolled at the primary school or children's services centre who is not immunised against a vaccine preventable disease (VPD) specified by the Secretary in that direction, does not attend the school or centre until the Secretary directs that such attendance can be resumed. (Note—VPDs marked in **bold** with an asterisk (*) require the department to be informed immediately. Contact the department on 1300 651 160 for further advice about exclusion and these diseases.)

Further information

For further information about exclusions mentioned in this document, please contact the Department of Health's Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Section on 1300 651 160 or visit ideas.health.vic.gov.au