



## Department of Human Services

Incorporating: Health, Children, Community Services, Aged Care and  
Housing

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Our Ref: ADD/06/30030  
Your Ref:

Dear School Principal or Children's Services Centre Manager,

### Re: Exclusion of Children with Infectious Diseases

I am writing to remind you that regulation 13(2) of the Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 2001 requires the principal teacher or person in charge of a school or children's services centre to notify the Department of Human Services (DHS), as well as the parent or guardian of the child, if they believe a child is suffering from a vaccine preventable disease, in order to receive instructions on the exclusion of the child. Prior to exclusion of the child call the DHS Communicable Disease Control Unit on 1300 651 160 to obtain information on the disease and ensure any exclusions are made based on firm medical evidence of the diagnosis of a vaccine preventable disease.

Please also note that regulation 14 requires the principal teacher or person in charge of a school or children's services centre to not allow a child to attend a school or children's services centre if they are infected with an infectious disease listed in Schedule 6. For some diseases such as measles, contacts may also need to be excluded. The principal teacher or person in charge of a school or children's services centre should take advice from the DHS Communicable Disease Control Unit when enforcing exclusion of cases and contacts for the same reasons as outlined in the paragraph above.

Please find attached the information in Schedule 6, 'Minimum Period of Exclusion from Schools and Children's Services Centres for Infectious Disease Cases and Contacts' in poster format. This document can also be downloaded from the web at the following address:  
[http://www.health.vic.gov.au/ideas/downloads/id\\_regs\\_school\\_excl.pdf](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/ideas/downloads/id_regs_school_excl.pdf)

If you have any queries regarding infectious diseases or the need to exclude children please contact the Communicable Disease Control Unit on 1300 651 160.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Rosemary Lester  
Assistant Director, Public Health Branch  
Communicable Disease Control Unit

Encl.

